

CROYDON u3a BULLETIN

January 2025

Charity number: 1029466

www.croydonu3a.org.uk



Our very merry group of singalong travellers to Longleat Festival of Light on a very beautiful sunny day in late November

Our member Chris in his best 'flashing' Christmas outfit at the recent Monthly Meeting.



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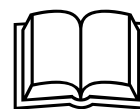
Find us at Croydon u3a

Bulletin stop press: The next Bulletin will be out late February early March 2025. Copy to Linda Grigsby, Bulletin Secretary lindagrigsby17@gmail.com, cc Jenny Wilson jenny.wilson@croydonu3a.org.uk by 20 February.

To join a Zoom event email jenny.wilson@croydonu3a.org.uk mob. 07808 723686



Jenny Wilson– CHAIR



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2025

Dear Croydon u3a Member
 Happy New Year! Where did 2024 go?
 Please read my items in this issue about the new website developments and the importance of people being paid-up members.
 Now that I have taken on the appointment of London Regional Trustee I am starting to get out and about and visit other London u3as. It's very interesting and rewarding to talk to other members and hear how much they value their membership.
 Our new CEO, Iain Cassidy is very keen to promote the value of SOCIAL CONNECTIONS. You can watch a short interview: Redefining Later Life where Iain explains his ideas for developing the u3a. <https://www.u3a.org.uk/our-impact/pushback-ageism>. Iain talks about the quantity and quality of our social connections for promoting wellbeing, keeping us connected, having purpose and being able to contribute to society as volunteers.

I am very pleased to remind you that The Importance of Social Connections was the thesis title for the two BA students from The Netherlands, who were with us for ten weeks in the Spring, conducting their research. We have to dispel the negative social images of frail, vulnerable people who are often victims of ridicule, and demonstrate that we have a great deal to contribute to society, that we are still learning and sharing our skills and experience. We are assets in society. u3a membership provides meaning and structure to our weeks, it opens new doors, provides opportunities to meet people and make friends. So spread the word and bring new people in so that they may share the benefits of membership.
 Wishing you a peaceful and calm 2025, but not too peaceful or too calm – remember we rock!
 Very best wishes,

Jenny

Jenny Wilson
 Chair of Croydon u3a E:
jenny.wilson@croydonu3a.org.uk
 London Regional Trustee E:
jenny.wilson@u3a.org.uk
 T: 07808 723 686

DATE	EVENT	FURTHER DETAILS/ SPEAKER
2025		
Wed 8 Jan at 2.15pm	Monthly Meeting at Masonic Hall	Andy Thomas 'Paranormal Mysteries & Cover-ups'
Mon 20 Jan at 7.30pm	Quiz Night – Zoom **	
Thurs 23 Jan	Arthritis Workshop	Details in this Bulletin
Wed 12 Feb at 2.15pm	Monthly Meeting at Masonic Hall	Maureen Dickson on Pilots & Soldiers of the Caribbean during WW2
Mon 17 Feb at 7.30pm	Quiz Night – Zoom **	
Wed 12 Mar at 2.15pm	Monthly Meeting at Masonic Hall	John Hickman on Notable Women of Norwood
Mon 17 Mar at 7.30pm	Quiz Night – Zoom **	
Wed 19 Mar	Members' Lunch The Horseshoe, Warringham	Booking form in this Bulletin
Sat 29 Mar	Spring Craft Day	Details in this Bulletin
31 Mar-4 Apr	5 day/4 night break to the Cotswold & Stratford upon Avon – Booking form in this Bulletin	
Wed 9 Apr at 2.15pm	Monthly Meeting at Masonic Hall	Paul Whittle on Steam Trains
Wed 16 Apr	Day outing to Arundel Castle for the Tulip Festival – NOW FULL	
Tues 13 May	Coach outing to Godinton House & Gardens	Details in this Bulletin, booking form at the next MM
Thur 12 June	Coach outing to Ramsgate	Booking form in this Bulletin
Thur 14 Aug	Tour of Strictly Dance Workshop	Details in this Bulletin
Thur 11 Sept	Runnymede riverboat lunch cruise	Details in this Bulletin

**** Contact Chair for the link**

The address of the Masonic Hall is 73 Oakfield Road, Croydon CR0 2UX. Masonic Hall free car park is in Stanton Road.

Monthly Meetings: the formal part of the meeting starts at 2.15 pm. Please come earlier to enjoy tea, coffee, biscuits and a chat, or come for lunch. The Masonic Hall provides a special u3a menu at reasonable prices – order from the bar.



IMPORTANT WEBSITE NEWS

The web platform many u3as have used has closed.

Croydon u3a's new address is www.croydonu3a.org.uk

We have taken the opportunity to develop a new look and hope you approve. It has been quite a task and the small team led by Kerstin Beard has done an excellent job. Many thanks to Mary Randell who has been our web manager for many years.

Don't forget about our **Environment and Climate Crisis website** <https://u3acroydon.weebly.com/> maintained by Margaret Derek, alongside her Face Book commitment

London Region u3a also has a new address – <https://lru3a.u3asite.uk/>

Please look at their winter programme of online talks

6th Jan Leonardo da Vinci

3rd Feb Our Human Instinct for Language

3rd March Brave New World vs Nineteen Eighty-Four.

Book a place from the Events page. **These are included in your Croydon u3a membership – no extra charge.**

The **National u3a** website address has not changed - <https://www.u3a.org.uk>

Have a look at the Events page for online talks, demonstrations and activities – you will be spoilt for choice. These are **ALL included** in your Croydon u3a membership.

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events#Events>

And there's **Interest Groups Online** – a huge range with an annual fee of £12

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/interest-groups-online>

Any captions?



Any caption ideas please send to Jenny on jenny.wilson@croydonu3a.org.uk

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

THIS IS A HIGHLY IMPORTANT NOTICE

PLEASE READ

u3a is a membership organisation. We operate with member volunteers running the Committee, Interest Groups, activities, workshops, outings, lunches and holidays.

Anyone who is interested in joining is allowed to attend ONE session, event or meeting before making a decision. That's a total of one! If people attend who have not taken up membership, there are at least three consequences.

- ✚ They are having 'a free ride' at your expense;
- ✚ They might be blocking a place in a group or on an outing which should be available for a member;
- ✚ They will get us into high water if there is an incident which requires a legal or insurance claim.

Let me explain that last point. u3a insurance cover does not include personal insurance for your lost coat. That's your responsibility. But if there was significant **incident** for which the u3a or a u3a member was responsible the u3a insurance policy would cover legal fees, possible medical expenses, damage repair, compensation and the like. There have been times in the past where such incidents have happened or a person decides to sue the local u3a for some reason. A case is in progress at the moment. Now, if a non-member is present (aka a member of the general public) the cover becomes void and a nightmare begins.

This is why we ask Group Leaders to check their membership list and explain to any non-members the reasons why they cannot not be attending u3a activities.

We welcome people to find out more about us initially but then **THEY MUST BECOME MEMBERS. END OF.**

Jenny Wilson (Chair of Croydon u3a)

Thank you Mary

Our website was set up in 2008 by Margaret Derrick, as you can imagine taking considerable effort and dedication. Margaret is now our Face Book administrator and web manager for our Weebly site holding our environmental and climate information.

In 2010 Mary Randell took over and has given us so much time and skill developing and maintaining the website for the last 14 years. It is a big job and a very important responsibility. The website is our shop window to the world for recruitment purposes and it is the go-to place for members who want to check on what's happening.

With the closing down of the website platform for all u3as using Site Builder, Mary thought it was time for her to 'retire' from the 'job'.

We are all extremely grateful to you Mary for your dedication and hard work and I know you have handed over the website and files in good shape for the migration process.

Again, **MANY AND HEARTFELT THANKS**

from the whole of Croydon u3a.





Electronic communications

PLEASE don't click **REPLY ALL** to a group email, unless you really do need to let everyone know.

Why not?

Well on an individual level it clutters up the inbox – **email overload** which for the recipients is time-consuming to read & delete and causes email fatigue!

More importantly your little click can cause server issues, uses unnecessary power to send the email & keep the servers cool.

If you want to reply to the sender - just click **Reply**please.

I have started sending some of my Interest Group emails out bcc (blind carbon copy) to prevent the Reply All. This also gets over the GDPR requirement about sharing email addresses. Everyone in a normal group email should have been asked for their permission to share their E address. But sometimes group members need to see who else is in the mailing so the process of sharing information has to be flexible.

SCAM requests

Dear XXXX

I hope you are well and enjoyed the Christmas and New Year break. I watched some great films on Netflix.

I am having trouble buying an on-line voucher for my grandson's special birthday. Please could you do this for me and I'll send you a cheque.

Blah blah blah.....

EVER HAD ONE OF THESE? Or some similar request to deposit money for someone / asking for your bank details etc?

Don't don't don't respond. If you can, report the scam & delete. Or just delete.

Jenny Wilson





On 23rd January 2025, join Leah Boylan from Arthritis Action, for a workshop based on how you can manage your arthritis with confidence. The Workshop will be held at Shirley Methodist Church, 2, Eldon Avenue, Croydon, CR0 8SD, from 10.30 am to 12 noon.

Arthritis Action is UK charity, giving hands on and practical help to improve the quality of life of people affected by arthritis. This talk will be an opportunity to learn about the self-management of arthritis in more detail, find out about their resources, ask questions and to share experiences. For further information, please visit their website: www.arthritisaction.org.uk For a place, please complete the form below and send a cheque payable to Croydon u3a (please put your initial and surname on the back of the cheque) for £5 to Joy Ellery, 2, Silverwood Close, Croydon, CR0 9AU. **OR** pay by **BACS (BT)**, account details: 23-05-80 / 13630003, stating the reference 'Arthritis Workshop'

Name.....U3a Membership No.....
Phone no:..... Email

I will contact you to let you know that you have a place, nearer the time. Do call or email me if you have any queries.

Joy Ellery (07710 244601, joyellery@btinternet.com)

Something to Shout About!

If you visited St Matthew's church over the Christmas period you will doubtless have seen this lovely seasonal promotional display from Fiona Bowles.

Many thanks to Fiona for spreading the word about Croydon u3a! Please do check to see whether our advertising materials are displayed in any venues your groups use – it is so important to shout out about what we offer! Our leaflets are available at the Monthly Meetings for you to take away. **Maggie Chan**



SPRING CRAFT DAY

Saturday 29th March 2025, 10.30-3.30

Fee : £25

at Shirley Methodist Church, 2 Eldon Avenue, Shirley, CR0 8SD

What will be covered:

- ✚ Creating your own original greetings card
- ✚ Making sugar paste flowers
- ✚ Icing & decorating a sponge cake
- ✚ Fun with buttercream piping and toppings on cupcakes
- ✚ Creating paper flowers

A list of items to bring with you, including a packed lunch, will be provided nearer the time.

Tea, coffee & cake will be provided along with all materials & ingredients including one sponge cake and 6 cupcakes.

No previous experience is required. Full instruction & help will be given.

To secure a place please:

1. Contact Jenny Wilson – E: jenny.wilson@croydonu3a.org.uk / T: 07808 723686
2. Transfer £25 by **BACS** account details: 23-05-80 / 13630003

OR send a **cheque** for £25 payable to Croydon u3a with your initial, surname & Craft Day on the reverse to: u3a Treasurer, 26 Morley Road, Croydon CR2 0EN

OR give £25 **cash** to Jenny –a receipt will be given.

3. ********* Please **check availability** before transferring the fee. *********

News From the Groups

How to start a new group

Maybe you woke up this morning with a simply GREAT idea for a new Croydon u3a group! Or perhaps you were discussing with friends what you like about the activities on offer and ended up saying, 'What a pity there isn't a group for ...!' If so, please don't keep it to yourself – we are always open to new ideas and they help to keep Croydon u3a interesting and fresh!



There is a tried and tested formula for getting new groups off the ground:

1. **Contact the Interest Groups Coordinator (currently this is me!)** with your idea. Hopefully you will be offering to lead the group or have spoken to somebody who is prepared to do so – it is much harder if you don't already have a leader in mind! But, of course, the leadership role can be shared -:many groups have co-leaders or a group /committee to run them – and this sort of shared responsibility works well.
2. I will set up a meeting over coffee when we can explore the viability of the idea.
3. If we agree that the idea could prove attractive to Croydon u3a members and offers something new that is not already covered by existing groups, then I will advertise the prospective group in the next Bulletin and produce flyers which will be available at Monthly Meetings. You will also have the opportunity to speak about your idea before the next Monthly Meeting, if you wish to do so. And canvas your contacts & u3a friends – you might even be able to encourage a new member or two.
4. Those interested will be asked to contact me - and when we have enough people showing an interest, I will invite them to meet with you and me over coffee to discuss time, day and place of meeting - with your own availability and preferences taking the lead.
5. We will then ask the Venues Coordinator (currently Joy Ellery) to help find a venue.
6. There is a start-up grant of up to £100 to cover things like the rental costs for the first few meetings if the group is to be held in a public venue; any equipment you may need (within reason!); refreshments for a Welcome Meeting to launch the group.....

This has proved to be a very simple and successful procedure for setting up new groups and we have in the last few years been able to get a number of very popular groups up and running. Of course, a few ideas have fallen on stony ground and not been able to get started – but it is always worth trying to float an idea to see what the take up is.

So – over the New Year, while you are thinking forward to the year ahead – if you come up with any great ideas for new groups – please do get in touch with me!

Maggie Chan : clockie68@gmail.com



We keep seeing in the newspapers and on the TV news features about the good effects that trying new challenges has on us as we get older. It seems that trying something new keeps us more mentally and socially active.

If you are up for a challenge - Croydon u3a currently offers several ways to be more involved - please see the following suggestions and do get in touch if you feel any of them might be for you!

Maggie Chan : clockie68@gmail.com

TRACING YOUR ANCESTORS

This small friendly group (previously called Family History) is looking to recruit extra members.

We meet on the 4th Wednesday each month from 2.00 -3.30pm at Thornton Heath library in Brigstock Road. Local buses from Croydon stop right outside the library or Thornton Heath station is less than a 10-minute walk away.

We use the computers in the Library's IT suite and, if required, members can use my subscription to Ancestry for a nominal charge (currently £1).

Other websites are available - but please note not all of these are free to use.

If you are interested in joining the group to learn a bit more about your ancestors, please contact me ...
You never know who or what you may find!

Cariss Smith: 0208 668 956



Line Dancing Fun

Our Line Dancing Group is an enthusiastic group of beginners and intermediates who enjoy getting together on Friday mornings for a session at Shirley Methodist Church.

Line dancing is good for your physical mobility as well as making sure you concentrate on the steps but above all it's great fun and there are a lot of laughs. Don't worry about getting it wrong, we all do that! Line dancing is no longer about cowboy hats and boots, although we may use some of the same steps, we now dance to a variety of popular music.

We dance on the first and third Friday of every month at Shirley Methodist Church. We have to cover the cost of our instructor's time as well as the hire of the hall so at the moment each member pays £5 for each session so that we are able to cover our costs

with an opportunity to dance for an extra half hour if you are a slightly more advanced line dancer.

If you would be interested in joining the group, do contact me on joyellery@btinternet.com or leave a message on 07710 244601.



The Focus on Africa group

The Focus on Africa group welcomed our leader, Grace Richardson's, son on a visit from Ghana. He used a series of activities and games to help us understand the traditional roles within Ghanaian families, making it a fun morning for us all.

If you have an interest in Africa, the group is open to new members. We meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month at Croydon Central Library. If you would like to come along and join our discussions, please contact the leader, Grace Richardson via Maggie Chan: clockie68@gmail.com



Eighteen members of the **Looking at London group** met at East Croydon station at 9.30am to travel to the Charterhouse next to the Malmaison Hotel in Charterhouse Square. We were early for our tour at 11.30am so we explored the museum and chapel.

The Charterhouse was established as a school and almshouses over 400 years ago and it was interesting to see the Black Book, a record of punishment of the boys, a photograph from a page dated 27th May 1842 is shown. Our guide, Jo gave a fascinating introductory talk on history of the Charterhouse, briefly summarised here. It was originally a Carthusian monastery built in 1371 on the site of one of the emergency burial grounds needed for victims of the Black Death in 1348/49. The most traumatic period in the history of the Charterhouse was the dissolution of the monasteries in the 1530s. The monastery was closed and the building seized by the Crown. Sixteen monks died for their faith. In 1611 the almshouse were founded by Thomas Sutton (a self-made man who amassed his fortune from coal, property and money lending) for 80 aged gentlemen and in 1616 there followed a school for 40 poor boys. An incendiary bomb caused a devastating fire in May 1941 and Queen Elizabeth II formally opened the restored Charterhouse buildings in 1958.



The tour highlights for me were of **(i) The Great Hall**, extensively renovated following the fire and now used as the dining room for the residents who are known as brothers even though women were admitted from 2018. **(ii) The Screen**. The fourth Duke of Norfolk's carved screen dating from 1571 is one of Charterhouse's most important treasures. **(iii) Norfolk Cloister**. A cell door can still be seen with an opening for passing food to a monk without disturbing his solitude. **(iv) The Great Chamber**, renovated with a stunning Tudor ceiling, impressive Jacobean fireplace and gorgeous green silk wall paper. **(v) Masters Court**, dominated by a royal coat of arms erected in 1660 to celebrate the restoration of Charles II. **(vi) Wash House Court**, containing servants' quarters where clothes were washed. The sound of modern washing machines could be heard.

We ended our outing as we began in Wetherspoon's Sir John Oldcastle (another building with a fascinating story!) near Farringdon station. A very enjoyable day out in spite of the weather.

Ann Parker

Croydon u3a 'Into Film' group experience - Some Hollywood Magic in London

In Mid-October 13 members of the Into Film group visited the Old Royal Naval College in Greenwich.



The Old Royal Naval College is one of the most popular filming locations in the world. Our tour featured locations for such notable films and TV shows such as 'Les Miserables', 'The Iron Lady', 'Bridgeton' and 'The Crown'.

Our private tour included a visit to The Painted Hall, as well as to the Tudor part of the original Greenwich Palace, which is not usually open to the public.

A worthwhile tour for all film and history lovers.

Singing for pleasure – a plea for more men to join

Although this popular group is now full, they are keen to find 2 or 3 more men who would like to join, so as to provide a better balance of voices.

The group sings with piano accompaniment a wide variety of different types of music:



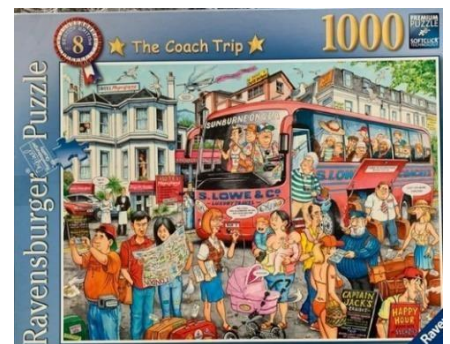
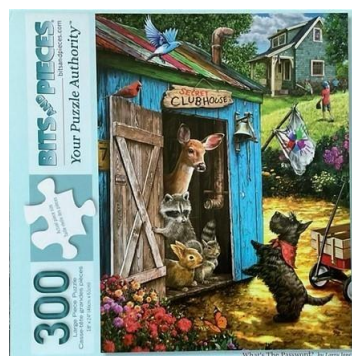
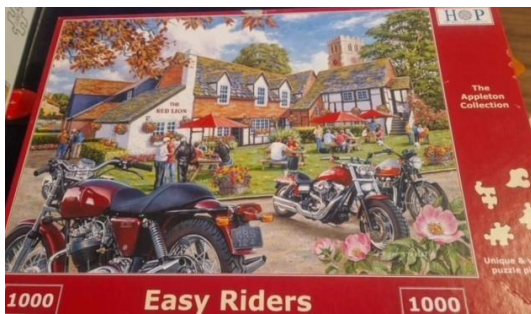
arrangements of folk songs; old favourites and some lesser-known ones; American Spirituals; popular melodies and show songs by people like Frank Sinatra and other entertainers. You don't have to read music, just enjoy singing in a mixed group – there are enough members with a good understanding to help carry you along. The group sings in three parts, the female voices singing the upper two lines of music and the male voices singing the lower one. The lower voices often carry the melody, while the others harmonise in two parts, sometimes three, which is very satisfying.

Any men interested in joining the group, please contact Maggie Chan clockie68@gmail.com

Jigsaw Puzzle Experience

Anyone interested in doing jigsaw puzzles or is a jigsaw fanatic? This group has now started where jigsaw puzzles can be exchanged or borrowed. We have a selection of 1,000, 500, 350 (large pieces) puzzles, which could suit anyone. Come along on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the u3a Monthly Meeting held at the Masonic Halls from 1.30 pm, and have a look at the various puzzles available, and, if you want, bring along any that you would like to exchange too (must be complete), and also enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits, and a chat.

Contact Linda Grigsby on 07754 092042, or Trish Bishop on 07711 229899



Potential New Groups

❖ Riverside and Canal Walking Group 5

Two people have come forward to jointly lead a **5th Riverside and Canal Walking group**.

Details of day and time of meeting are under discussion and will be published soon.

The walk will follow the same format as the existing 4 groups - the aim being to enjoy leisurely two-to-two to three-mile strolls along rivers and canals and around reservoirs - mainly along the Thames and its tributaries, but with the possibility of exploring canal-side paths.



If you are interested in joining Group 5 please contact the Interest Groups' Coordinator, Maggie Chan, clockie68@gmail.com

COME ALONG AND JOIN OUR NEW SINGALONG GROUP

If you like to Singalong to popular tunes from 'back in the day' now's your chance to come along and have some fun! We are hoping to start a new 'Singalong' group at Shirley Methodist Church on the 2nd Monday of the month from 10.30-12 noon, starting from Monday 10th February 2025. The cost will be £4 to include refreshments.

It doesn't matter if you don't think you can sing just come along and join in the fun. Please note that IT IS NOT Karaoke!

If you are interested, please contact Trish Bishop on 07711 229899, email trishbish@outlook.com, or Linda Grigsby on 07754 092042, email lindagrigsby17@gmail.com



Interested in Botanical watercolour painting?



Following the success of his first course, Caje Moniz is offering a second 12-week tutored course in botanical watercolour painting.

Meeting once a week, the course will include:

- ✚ Observation and sketching;
- ✚ colour mixing and basic techniques;
- ✚ painting leaves, flowers, stems, branches, bark;
- ✚ painting fine detail;
- ✚ composition, background and texture.

Participants will need to have their own equipment for which a detailed list of items will be provided.

There are 2 spaces remaining on this course. To express your interest please contact Maggie Chan: clockie68@gmail.com

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN MAH JONG?

One of our members is hoping to set up a Mah Jong group.



Similar to the card game Rummy, but played with tiles instead of cards, Mah Jong is a game of skill, strategy, and luck.

If this would interest you, please contact the Groups Coordinator, Maggie Chan: clockie68@gmail.com

Potential New Groups

A chance to learn some basic Mandarin Chinese ...

A small group of us are very much enjoying learning Mandarin Chinese. The lessons are informal and fun – they offer a chance not only to acquire some basics of the language but also to find out about some of the culture and traditions of China.

We do have room for 2 more people in the group – and our tutor would be prepared to start a second group if there is demand.

Please let me know if you would be interested either in joining the existing group or forming a new group.

Maggie Chan: clockie68@gmail.com



TASTER SESSION OF BALLROOM DANCING

Fancy a whirl around the dance floor ... ???

Whether you are an experienced Ballroom Dancer or would just like to give it a try – why not join us for a Taster Session with a qualified instructor at Shirley Methodist Church – 3rd Monday of the month (time to be arranged). The cost is £5 per person

We can't guarantee you will reach 'Strictly' levels – but we CAN guarantee it will be fun!

You do NOT need to come with a partner.

If there is sufficient interest, it may be possible to continue as a regular group.

If interested, contact Maggie Chan: clockie68@gmail.com



I have just heard about an initiative by the Islington u3a, which has a group called

Walking with a Camera.

Members meet for a monthly walk/ramble, during which they take photos around an agreed theme – which they then post via their WhatsApp group. They aim to develop their photography appreciation and skills by sharing comments and tips. Most take photos on their smart phones.

I think this is an idea which we could copy! I am sure that our friends in Islington wouldn't mind!

Please contact me if you would like to join such a group – and particularly if you would be prepared to lead/organise it. It would be best to have 2 or 3 people taking on the organisation.

Maggie Chan: clockie68@gmail.com





Together we donated 200 bags of toiletry gifts and 250 bags of sweet treats

MANY thanks to Val for organising, encouraging and co-ordinating this effort. She said **Crisis** are so grateful for our contributions which will help to make 600 Croydon homeless women feel they are not forgotten.

Crisis in Croydon

Over the past few months Croydon u3a members have generously been donating items for Crisis in Croydon, the homeless charity that has its offices in Surrey Street.

A big thank you goes to those who donated toiletries, sweets and warm winter coats and sweaters, and to those who helped make up the bags. These have now been delivered to the Crisis offices and are being distributed. Crisis has shower facilities at its offices and I was there when a homeless man came to use the facilities and was given a bag of toiletries (which included shower gel, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrush and toothpaste) and he was so appreciative of being given this, and knowing that people care in Croydon.

Through collecting all these things we were able to give Crisis over 200 bags of toiletries, and over 250 bags of sweets and biscuits. And a special thank you to those who gave winter coats and sweaters, for both men and women, which now will be keeping those on the streets warm these chilly nights.

Our collecting has finished for this year, and is benefitting those have become homeless through problems such as domestic violence or unable to pay rent due to cost of living issues, resulting in eviction and no place to go.

So a BIG THANK YOU to Croydon u3a members.

VALERIE APPS

The u3a Brandenburg Christmas Concert

I very much enjoyed attending this concert held at St Margaret Pattens Church, Eastcheap. The church was full of members from different London u3as. We were treated to some beautiful music from the choir, amusing readings and refreshments. It was a lovely occasion. Our very own Philippa Bassett, Group Leader of Art Appreciation, is involved with these events and she sent this interesting background history below. Jenny Wilson (chair)

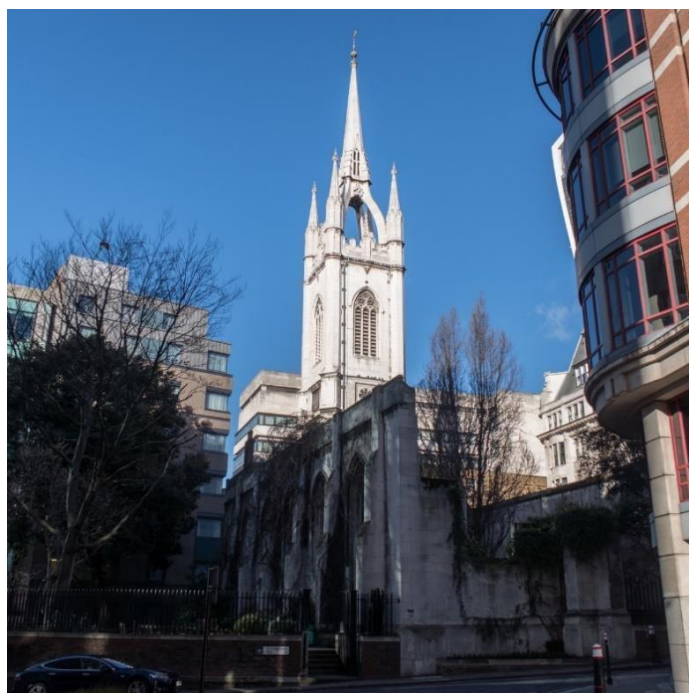
For 18 years I worked at National Office and gradually took over Events as I had marketing experience. U3A National Office was approached by numerous organisations, arts and sciences, who wished to expand their in-person adult educational outreach. An example is the National Gallery which was initially providing events for secondary schools and wished to expand into adult education. On the music side, events included the ROH, Philharmonia of London and Glyndebourne. Luckily, I never needed to go “cold calling”! These prestigious events really put U3A as the adult education movement on the map and organisations were keen to work with us. Those were the days before Covid and on-line events of course.

Brandenburg Choral Festival of London contacted National Office about 12 years ago with suggestions for U3A concerts. Brandenburg was already offering specialised concerts to the Art Society, Age Concern as part of their outreach programme. We had a wonderful venue for U3A Christmas concerts – The Queen’s Chapel of the Savoy which, sadly, is no longer available.

We held 3 concerts each Christmas at the Savoy Chapel and an Easter concert ‘Celebrating Spring’ at Temple Church.

Brandenburg selects the venues for performance/catering purposes and organises the concert programme.

By Philippa Bassett



Croydon u3a Travel Team – 2025 Plans

A New Year approaches and with it the Croydon u3a Travel Team will again be running day coach trips and short breaks, plus the Members' lunches. Many of the planned trips have already been published and bookings are coming in fast. Below is a short introduction to the 2025 programme:

- March – Members Lunch – now booking
- April – Trip to Arundel Castle – FULLY BOOKED
- March/April – Short break to the Cotswolds – now booking
- May – Visit to Godinton House and Garden – booking opens in January
- June – Visit to Ramsgate and the Tunnels – now booking
- July – TO BE ANNOUNCED
- August – Visit to the Strictly Come Dancing Costume Makers – now booking
- September – Lunch on the Thames – now booking
- October – Members' Lunch
- December – Christmas Themed Outing - tbc

We hope you will be able to join us on one or more of the events. If you have ideas for future trips we would be pleased to hear from you.

Contact Linda Grigsby (lindagrigsby17@gmail.com) with your ideas.

We hope you have a great 2025.

The Croydon u3a Travel Team – Averil, Cariss, David, Karen, Linda, Paul.

At the end of November 16 Croydon u3a members travelled to **Longleat Festival of Lights** for a 2 night stay at the Doubletree Hotel in Swindon, travelling to Longleat on the 2nd day, thoroughly entertained by our singing coach driver John with lots of singalongs. Here is a few of the photos captured during our time at Longleat and it was absolutely very beautiful. Especially as up until the date we travelled on the Monday the site had been cancelled due to the storms in the area. And of course we had a trip around the Safari park, which was amazing.



Croydon u3a Members' Lunch at The Horseshoe

Farleigh Road, Warlingham CR6 9EG

Wednesday 19 March 2025

(403 bus from Croydon stops outside)

12.30 for 1.00 pm 2 courses £27 **EITHER** Starters &
Main **OR** Main & Dessert (tea & coffee included)

Starters

- a) Prawn Cocktail
- b) Loaded Potato Skins (v)
- c) Soup of the Day (v)
- d) Loaded Nachos (v/vegan)

Main

- e) Baked Salmon
- f) BBQ Ribs
- g) Baked Mushroom Wellington (vegan)
- h) Chicken, Leek & Ham Pie

Desserts

- i) Warm chocolate brownie with vanilla pod ice cream & chocolate sauce
- j) Spiced Apple & Cinnamon Crumble
- k) Strawberry Eton Mess Sundae
- l) Biscoff Cheesecake

Croydon u3a Lunch

The Horseshoe on Wednesday 19 March 2025 at 12.30 for 1 pm

(Please make your selection here)

Menu choice: Starters: Main: Desserts:

Send this form to: Linda Grigsby, 37 Albatross Gardens, South Croydon CR2 8QW; Mob: 07754092042 **OR** Cariss Smith, 62 Penwortham Road, South Croydon CR2 0QS; Mob: 07904 163454, with a **cheque payable to Croydon u3a and stamped addressed envelope, OR pay at the Monthly Meeting or by Bank Transfer account no... 13630003, sort code 23-05-80 (YOU MUST PUT THE REFERENCE 'MEMBERS' LUNCH).**

Name(s) Membership No(s)
Address: Post Code.....
Tel. No. E-mail
I would like ticket(s) Total..... (cheque payable to **Croydon u3a** and s.a.e. enclosed)

PLEASE BRING YOUR TICKET ALONG FOR ENTRY TO RAFFLE FOR A FREE MEAL

Outing to Cotswold & Stratford upon Avon

**5 days, 4 nights break
31 March – 4 April 2025**

£521 per person based on passengers sharing a twin or double room (+ £99 single room supplement). **£75 deposit to be paid when booking** (non-refundable unless the trip is cancelled due to lack of numbers). Deadline for this is 15 January 2025 and the balance to be paid by 20 January 2025.

Price includes coach travel, driver's tip, 4 nights at the Stratford Manor Hotel, Warwickshire (which has a swimming pool) (www.stratfordmanor.co.uk), breakfast and evening meals, and excursions mentioned below. The timings of the coach leaving Croydon is to be confirmed, and will be from the Fairfield Halls. This trip is for u3a members only. The itinerary for this trip is:

Day 1: Travel to the Stratford Manor Hotel

Day 2: Today travel a short distance to the town of Stratford upon Avon for some free time. The morning is yours to explore the marvellous eateries, many activities on offer and boutique shops, before you continue on for a guided tour and tasting at Shakespeare Distillery. This artisan, carbon neutral spirit producer has been inspired by the Tudor period and take time, attention and passion to create carefully handcraft spirits in small batches.

Day 3: Today our first stop of the day is to the small village of Broadway to board the Gloucestershire and Warwickshire Steam Railway for a single journey to Cheltenham

Racecourse. Your driver will meet you here and convey you into the heart of Cheltenham where the remainder of the day is free for you to spend exploring this town at leisure.

Day 4: Today we journey through parts of the scenic Cotswolds, making stops in some of the beautiful towns and villages including Moreton-in-Marsh, Bourton-on-the-Water and Cirencester.

Day 5: Today we make our way home



(Please note the order of the excursions may change)

Please also ensure that we are aware of any mobility problems you may have, and you must tell us if you are bringing a wheelchair or mobility aid. You must also be able to get on and off the coach unaided.

Cotswolds & Stratford upon Avon – Booking Form

Return this form (indicating your room preference) to: Linda Grigsby, 37 Albatross Gardens, South Croydon CR2 8QW; Tel. Mob: 07754092042, email lindagrigsby17@gmail.com, OR Cariss Smith, 62 Penwortham Road, South Croydon CR2 0QS; Tel: 0208 668 9562/Mob: 07904 163454, with a cheque payable to Croydon u3a together with a stamped addressed envelope, for £75 OR payment may be made by Bank Transfer account no... 13630003, sort code 23-05-80 (YOU MUST PUT THE REFERENCE 'COTSWOLDS & STRATFORD upon AVON)

Single/Double/Twin rooms

Name(s)Membership No(s)

Address:

Tel. No.E-mail

My contact in case of emergency is (not someone who is also on the coach trip):

Name.....Tel. No.....

GODINTON HOUSE TRIP

Tuesday 13 May 2025

Expression of Interest

Our May trip will be visiting this historic house in Kent. We will have a guided tour of the House and then be able to enjoy the lovely gardens. Plans for the trip are in their final stages and once everything is in place the booking form will be found on the Croydon u3a website, and this will have all the details regarding the visit. We will also have the booking forms available at our first **Monthly Meeting on 8th January at the Masonic Halls**. Please contact David Apps on email dapps97090@aol.com to express your interest

Godinton House dates back to the 14th century, when the Great Hall was first built. The house was then constructed around this central room over the subsequent centuries: the greatest part of it is Jacobean, but the most recent alterations were in the early 20th century.



For the most part of its history, Godinton was the seat of the Toke Family, Kentish gentry, who oversaw the majority of its construction according to their tastes. Eventually Godinton was sold to the Ashley Dodds, who employed the architect Reginald Blomfield to alter and update the house and gardens. In 1917, Godinton was sold to Lillie Bruce Ward, whose family lived here until the last owner's death in 1996. It is now run by a Trust.



The twelve acres of gardens are surrounded by ancient parkland studded with stately oaks and chestnuts. Terraced lawns bordered by a vast yew hedge and topiaried box have been softened over the last century by the addition of long, curvy-edged herbaceous borders and ornamental tree and shrub plantings.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM

GODINTON HOUSE – MAY 2025

Name(s).....Membership No(s)

Address

Postcode:Mob No.E-mail

I would liketicket(s).

u3a Summer Coach Outing to Ramsgate Harbour & Tunnels

Thursday 12 June 2025 - £34pp (incl. travel, driver's tip, tour of tunnels)

Our 2025 summer outing is to Ramsgate, a seaside town in East Kent and includes a guided tour of Ramsgate's Hidden Wartime History in the Tunnels. Visit the beach and see the boats and yachts in marina. The town is a Cinque Port and the only Royal Heritage Harbour in the country. For further detail, look up: <https://www.visitthanet.co.uk/see-and-do/ramsgate/>

Arrival & Registration 7:45am: At Fairfield Hall's bus stop KA. Depart by coach at 8:00am, have a 15 minutes comfort break enroute and aim to arrive around 10:15am at **Ramsgate Esplanade**.

On arrival: take in the views and have a cuppa or lunch at a range of cafes, restaurants and ice cream parlours. Marvel at the architecture of Wetherspoon's Royal Pavilion, built as a concert hall and assembly rooms. Breakfast muffin deal at £3.99. For further detail, look up:



<https://api.jdwetherspoon.com/pubs/all-pubs/england/kent/the-royal-victoria-pavilion-ramsgate>

Ramsgate Tunnell 1 ½ hour Guided Tours: Groups 1 and 2 will be announced on the coach. **Please ensure you advise us of mobility problems you may have before booking, certainly latest by 31 May, especially if you are bringing a wheelchair or mobility aid. You must also be able to get on and off the coach unaided. Using a mobility aid provides access only to the Ramsgate Tunnel museum, NOT the tunnel because the terrain is uneven.**

Group 1: Assemble at Tunnels at 11:25am for a pre-tour visit to the museum. Tour at 12 noon.

Group 2: Assemble at Tunnels at 1:25pm for a pre-tour visit to the museum. Tour at 2:00pm

Registration & Departure 4pm: Depart by coach to arrive at Fairfield Halls at around 6:30pm.



Online payment of £34 to Croydon u3a Business Account No. 13630003 Sort Code 230580 Reference – insert your **Surname**. Remember to post your booking form and stamped self-addressed envelope to Paul Smith, 26 Morley Road, South Croydon CR2 0EN. Tel. 07722 295713

Cheque payment Cheque payable to Croydon u3a together with completed booking form and stamped self-addressed envelope to: Paul Smith, 26 Morley Road, South Croydon CR2 0EN. Tel. 07722 295713 If you have problems on the day of outing, ring Paul 07722 295713 or Averil 07880 724057

□.....

BOOKING FORM – Ramsgate Thursday 12 June 2025

Leave 8:00am from Fairfield Halls. Price: £34. No other discounts/vouchers/concessions are valid

Name(s) Membership No(s)

Postcode: Mobile Tel. No. E-mail

I would like ticket(s). Total: £..... (Payment to **"Croydon u3a"**)

For the guided tour, I would like to be in the same group as my friends whose names are:

I have attached a stamped self-addressed envelope together with my cheque payment

I will pay £..... by bank transfer and will post Paul Smith a stamped, self-addressed enveloped

My contact in case of emergency is: Name..... Tel. No.

Behind the Seams of the Strictly Dancing Wardrobes Expression of Interest

Looking for a truly unique fashion tour in London then look no further than a 2 hour tour taking place on **Thursday 14 August at 11 am**. The cost is **£30**. Meet at 10.45 at DSI, Unit 13, Progress Business Park, Progress Way, Croydon CR0 4XD. Plenty of car parking, and the Wimbledon tram gets you to Waddon Marsh. If you fancy meeting up after the tour for a coffee there is a Starbucks nearby.

There are some staircases within the building, and it is advised that this tour may not be suitable for visitors with limited mobility.

Your experience begins with a champagne reception, followed by an engaging talk in the dedicated showroom. You'll also gain insights into the intricate production process behind each show-stopping creation. Next, you'll embark on a guided walkthrough of the vibrant production facilities, where the magic happens. You will also visit the stockroom—a kaleidoscope of bright, shimmering fabrics sure to inspire awe. Throughout the tour, the team is on hand to answer your questions, share anecdotes, and delve deeper into any topic that sparks your interest. To wrap up the experience, you might even get the chance to try on one of our original dresses and feel the magic of a spin and whirl.

Please contact Linda Grigsby on 07754 092042, or email lindagrigsby17@gmail.com to express your interest



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM

BEHIND THE SEAMS – STRICTLY WARDROBES 14 August 2025

Name(s).....Membership No(s)

Address

Postcode:Mob No.E-mail

I would like ticket(s). T

u3a Outing to Runnymede for Lunch Cruise & a Visit to Windsor

Thursday 11 September 2025

**Coach leaves at 9.00am from Fairfield Halls, Park Lane,
Croydon, arriving back between 5.30-6pm**

Cost of this outing is £50 (including driver's tip): and includes a Ploughman's Lunch + tea and coffee. The tour is from 11 am to 1 pm, with a trip into Windsor after.



We pick up the boat at Runnymede. This is an ideal trip for those with restricted mobility. A cruise through the "back garden" of Windsor Castle with views of the Castle, Royal Farm and Queen Adelaide's Cottage. The boat will pass through Old Windsor Lock and the village of



Datchet, and then turns at Romney Lock. Enjoy views from the upper deck before moving to the comfortable saloon, where you are served your Ploughman's lunch.. There is a bar on board serving alcoholic and soft drinks. Please note that it is **CASH ONLY** at the bar.

Return the booking form below to: Linda Grigsby, 37 Albatross Gardens, South Croydon CR2 8QW; Mob: 07754092042 **OR** Cariss Smith, 62 Penwortham Road, South Croydon CR2 0QS; Mob: 07904 163454, either at the Monthly Meeting in the Masonic Halls, **OR** by Bank Transfer account no. 13630003, sort code 23-05-80 (**PLEASE PUT THE OUTING NAME**); **OR** with a **cheque (payable to Croydon u3a) together with stamped addressed envelope**. Last date for applying is 10 August 2025.

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.....
BOOKING FORM – Runnymede Lunch Cruise 11 September 2025

Leave 9.00 am from Fairfield Halls, departing approximately 4-4.30pm, arriving back between 5.30-6pm.

Name(s)..... Membership No(s)
Address
Postcode:Mob No.E-mail

I would like ticket(s). Total £..... (cheque payable to "Croydon u3a"). **OR** by Bank Transfer account no. 13630003, sort code 23-05-80 (**PLEASE PUT THE OUTING NAME**); **together with stamped addressed envelope.**

My contact in case of emergency is: Name.....Tel. No.

CROYDON u3a TRAVEL TEAM EVENT

General Information and Booking terms and conditions

Please carefully read these **Booking Terms and Conditions**, as submission of a Booking Form will be taken as your acceptance of them. We also request that you carry Identity details with your name. Please also carry a card with your contact in case of emergency, Tel. number and any significant medical conditions.

Coach Pick up and Drop off are at Fairfield Halls Bus stop KA. See cover page of poster for times. On the day of an outing, if you have any problems joining the trip, please ring the Trip Organisers (mobile numbers on cover page of poster or on the ticket) by 7:00am. Outings are for Croydon U3A members only. In the event of low take-up, we may take members from other U3As and non-U3A members on an occasional basis.

Booking Forms: Booking forms for each outing are dealt with individually. When booking for multiple trips, a **separate booking form and stamped addressed envelope** are required for each one. Your booking may be jeopardised if this is not done. If you request more than one place, we must have the first name and surname and U3A number of each person.

Payment: Make payment online to Croydon u3a Business Account No. 13630003 Sort Code 230580 **Reference** – insert your **Surname**. Alternatively, pay by cheque. Cheques may be dated for any time between Booking Form submission date and **two months** before the outing / event date. Please send your completed Booking Form, cheque and self-addressed envelope to the address given on the Booking Form.

Reduced admission: We can only offer the reductions which are advertised by the venue itself at the time we book it. We cannot deal with any special offers or discounts you may personally have.

Refunds: Refunds are generally non-refundable unless we are able to resell the place.

Mobility Requirements: Some, but not all, of our outings are suitable for members with manageable mobility restrictions. You must contact the named Travel Team Trip Organiser member on the poster cover page before booking if you wish to bring a mobility aid so that we can discuss your needs.

We will mention in our publicity and outing details any significant access or safety considerations of which we are aware. **YOU MUST BE ABLE TO GET ON AND OFF THE COACH UNAIDED.**

Restricted mobility: Members with restricted mobility may be accompanied by a carer on any outing, but a place needs to be booked. The carer does not have to be a U3A member but will be required to pay the full cost. Members are asked to think carefully about the physical demands of the outing and their own situation before submitting an application. We need to ensure that all participants are safe and that everyone enjoys the day. Ultimately the Travel Team reserves the right to decline applications in exceptional situations, regrettable as this may be.

Your responsibilities: You are asked to pay particular attention to the scheduled **Arrival & Registration, Visits** and **Registration & Departure** times and assemble at the designated meeting point. If you are late, we may have to leave without you to enable us to keep to the time-table. In such an instance, you would have to arrange your own return home, and you would not be entitled to any refund for the cost of the unused portion of the day. If this should happen, we would endeavour to contact you and/or your emergency name contact number. We ask members for their mobile phone numbers and for them to ensure they are switched on during the outing. Participants are responsible for themselves and their belongings.

Data protection: The details you give us on the booking form will be held by the organisers until the outing has taken place and will be used only for the purpose of the outing. When it has taken place, they will be destroyed. We keep a record of your mobile numbers to save you giving us those details on every outing. Participants are responsible for themselves and their belongings.

General: We try to schedule comfort stops at a convenient time and place, but it is not always easy to do this for a large coach. Apart from the initial outbound departure time, most other times are approximate. We cannot predict traffic hold-ups or bad weather, both of which may affect our arrival and final departure times.

Croydon u3a Travel Team - LUNCHES

General Information and Booking terms and conditions Refunds: A refund will only be payable for cancelled bookings if we are able to resell the place. Anyone taking the place of a cancelled booking must pay by bank transfer before the event or cash on the day.

Mobility Requirements: A member of the Travel Team will investigate any problems of access at the venue before bookings are opened. Members who are worried about mobility issues should contact the organiser before making the booking. Members with restricted mobility may be accompanied by a carer to any meal but a place needs to be booked. The carer does not have to be a u3a member but will be required to pay the full cost.

Your responsibilities: All attendees must carry out their own risk assessment

CROYDON u3a INTEREST GROUPS

Contact: Margaret Chan 020 8655 4343 - clockie68@gmail.com should you be interested in any of the groups. (Dec 15 2024)

<u>Group Title</u>	<u>Day of the Month</u>	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Venue</u>
<u>Action Groups</u>			
Chair Yoga	2 & 4 Mon & 1,2,3 Fri 1 & 3 Mondays	10.00 am 10.15 am	Zoom SMC
Dance Exercise	Mondays	9.45 am	St Matthew's Church
International Folk Dance	1 & 3 Wed	10.00 am	SMC
Line Dancing	1 & 3 Fri	10.30 am	SMC
Table Tennis	Every Friday FULL	2 & 3 pm	St Matthew's Church
Darts & Pub Lunch 1	2 Tues FULL	12.00 midday	The Orchard Pub
Darts and Pub Lunch 2	4 Weds FULL	12.00 midday	The Orchard Pub
Tai Chi	1 & 3 Mondays	1.00-2.00 pm	SMC
<u>Active outdoor Groups</u>			
Short Walks	2 & 4 Thurs	10.30 am	Varies
Cycling	1 Weds & 3 Thurs	Varies	Varies
Historic Visits	4 Thurs	Varies	Outings
Riverside & Canal Walks	3 Weds April – Oct FULL	Varies	Varies
Riverside & Canal Walks(2)	4 Weds April – Oct FULL	Varies	Varies
Riverside & Canal Walks(3)	4 Tues April – Oct FULL	Varies	Varies
Riverside & Canal Walks(4)	3 Friday April – Oct FULL	Varies	Varies
Riverside & Canal Walks(5)	4 Friday April – Oct	Varies	Varies
<u>Gardening Groups</u>			
Garden Visits – April	3 Wed (Apr-Sept)	10.45 am	Various
Garden Design	Fortnightly Wed (10 sessions)	10.00-12 noon	Home, South Croydon
Wild Flowers	4 Monday (March to Sept)	10.30 am	Various
Love Gardening	1 Mon	10.30 am	Various
<u>Cultural Activities</u>			
Architecture	1 Tues	10.00 am	Various
A Taste of World Cuisines	1 Tues	Lunch time	Various
Wine Admiration	1 or 2 Fri FULL	2.00pm	Home – Various
Art Appreciation	4 Fri	2.00pm	SMC
China	3 Tues	10.00 am	Zoom
Croydon Memories	4 Fri	12.00 noon	The Boulevard
Into Film	Varies FULL	Varies	David Lean cinema
Theatre Visits	Varies	Varies	Varies
Focus on Africa	4 Tues	11.00 am	Central Library
<u>Arts & Crafts</u>			
Handicrafts	1 & 3 Tues	2.00pm	Home – Selhurst
Knit & Natter	2 & 4 Tues	11.00 am	Home – Waddon
Painting & Drawing 1	Every Mon FULL	10.15	St John's Selsdon
Painting & Drawing 2	Every Mon	10.15 am	SMC
<u>Music</u>			
Blues & Jazz Appreciation	Varies	Varies	Various
Singing for Pleasure	2 & 4 Wed FULL	10.30 am	St Matthews Church
Mandolin	By arrangement	By arrangement	Home, Addiscombe

<u>Group Title</u>	<u>Day of the Month</u>	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Venue</u>
<u>Games of Skill</u>			
Rubber Bridge	Every Tues	2.00pm	Home, Addiscombe
Scrabble 1	1st & 3rd Thursday	11.30 am	Home - Selsdon
Scrabble 2	3 Thurs	10.30 am	Home – Selhurst
Quiz Nights	3 Mon	7.30 pm	Zoom
Board Games Fun	2 Fri	2.30pm	Ludoquist Café, Croydon
Jigsaw Puzzle Experience	2 Weds	1.30pm	before the MM @ Masonic Halls
<u>Literature</u>			
Exploring Fiction old and new	3 Wed	2.00pm	Home
Share a Good Read	2 Mon	2.30 pm	St Johns, Selsdon
Play Reading Croydon	1 & 3 Mon	1.30pm	Home various
Play Reading Selsdon	1 Mon	2.00pm	Home various
Poetry for Pleasure	4 Tues	2.00pm	Home – S Croydon
Books Made into Films	3 Thurs	11.00 am	Clocktower Café
Writing for Pleasure Group	1 Wed	1.45-3.45pm	SMC
	3 Wed	7.00pm	Zoom
<u>Languages</u>			
French Conversation (lower/Intermediate)	Every Mon	10.00am	PUR Church
French Conversation (Adv)	2 nd & 4 th Tues	2.30pm	Zoom
Italian – Conversation	1 Fri FULL	10.00 am	Home – Purley
Russian – Intermediate	1 & 3 Wed	10.00am	Home – Croydon
Spanish Conversation (lower/Intermediate)	Every Mon	11.00am	PUR
German Friends	Mons	10.15	Zoom
<u>Maths, Science & IT</u>			
Science & Technology	2 Tues	8.00pm	Zoom
<u>Social Studies/History</u>			
Environment & Climate Crisis	3 Thurs	7.30pm	Zoom
Early Medieval History	1 Tues	2.30pm	Home – Central Croydon
Tracing Your Ancestors	4 Wed	2.00pm	THL
History – Local	3 Fri FULL	2.00pm	Home – Wallington + visits
History of London 1	1 & 3 Tues	10.00 am	PUR + Outings
History of London 2	2 & 4 Tues FULL	10.00am/2.00pm	StMC + Outings
History of London 3	1 & 3 Wed	2.00pm/10.00am	StMC + Outings
History of London 4	3 & 4 Wed	1.30 pm varies	PUR Ch + Outings
Looking at London	1 Mon	2.00pm	StMCh + Outings
17 th – 19 th Century History	1 Wed	2.30pm	Home – Central Croydon
Members on Their Own (MOTO)	Various	Various	Various

Abbreviations for Venues – SMC – Shirley Methodist Church: **Orchard Pub**, Cherry Orchard Road: **The Boulevard**, Selsdon Road: **St John the Baptist Church Hall**, Dale Rd, Purley CR8 2EF: **PURCh** - Purley United Reform Church: **THL** - Thornton Heath Library : **StMC** - St Matthew's Church +