

CROYDON u3a BULLETIN

May 2026

Charity number: 1029466

www.croydonu3a.org.uk



Sam Dukes, Marketing Manager for the u3a joined our April Monthly meeting. He said he had an inspiring time and was going away with much to think about.

Photo L - R : Susheela, Sam, Chris, Angela and Angie.



Arlene and Lucille attempting to do the hand jive at the recent Wye Valley holiday

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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.

Croydon u3a QR
Code



Find us at Croydon u3a

Bulletin stop press: The next Bulletin will be out late June early July 2026. Copy to Linda Grigsby, Bulletin Secretary lindagrigsby17@gmail.com, cc Jenny Wilson jenny.wilson@croydonu3a.org.uk by 20 June.

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



Jenny Wilson– CHAIR



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2026

Dear Croydon u3a Member

Croydon u3a is going places

Always lots of lovely new faces.

Learn, laugh and live is what we do

But help is needed. Is that you?

Running a group brings great joy

Please come forward, don't be coy.

There's lots of help ready for the taking

It's not backbreaking, you won't be aching.

You could give it a try,

A short course to supply.

Please consider it today

And I'll say hip hip hooray!

New Groups and short courses are always needed to keep our u3a fresh and on top form. They can be run by a pair or small team. There's no need to go it alone.

Contact our Interest Group Co-ordinator Trisha –

E: trisha.holmes@croydonu3a.org.uk or me jenny.wilson@croydonu3a.org.uk

Very best wishes,

Jenny

Jenny Wilson, Chair of Croydon u3a and London Region Council Rep

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If you are interested in joining the Zoom Quiz Nights contact Jenny Wilson
jenny.wilson@croydonu3a.org.uk

DATE	EVENT	FURTHER DETAILS/ SPEAKER
<u>2026</u>	MM = Monthly Meeting	
Wed 13 May at 2.15	MM at Masonic Hall	Louise Camby – Help our Hedgehogs
Mon 18 May at 7.30pm	Quiz Night - Zoom	
Thurs 21 May	A coach outing to Parham House & Gardens	Details in this Bulletin
Mon 8 June	**The People's Emergency Briefing Film** Invitation & details in this Bulletin	
Wed 10 Jun at 2.15 pm	MM at Masonic Hall	Ian Porter – Call the Midwife
Mon 15 June at 7.30pm	Quiz Night - Zoom	
Tues 30 June	British Summer Lunch Cruise	FULL – waiting list
Wed 8 July	MM at Masonic Hall	Charles Darwin in Bromley by Alister Hayes
Wed 15 July	Coach outing to Sutton Hoo	Details in this Bulletin
Mon 20 July at 7.30pm	Quiz Night - Zoom	
Thurs 6 Aug	New Old Jewish Quarter Tour	FULL- waiting list
Wed 12 Aug	MM at Masonic Hall	Topic tbc, speaker Andy Smith
Wed 26 Aug	Trip to the Great Stink	Details in this Bulletin
Thur 17 Sept	City of London Walk	Details in the July Bulletin
5-9 Oct	A few days break in Liverpool	Details in this Bulletin
Wed 14 Oct	AGM	Details in the July Bulletin
21 Oct at 12.30pm	Members' lunch at Maple, Sanderstead	Details in this Bulletin
November	British Museum – Bayeux Tapestry	Details in the July Bulletin
Fri 4 Dec	A Christmas Market in Rochester	Details in this Bulletin

A film to ensure the UK is fully briefed on the climate and nature crisis.

INVITATION TO THE SCREENING OF THE National Climate Emergency Film

50 minute film based on the presentations from experts on current available evidence about the climate and nature emergency.

When : Monday 8th June, 2.30-4.30 @ Shirley Methodist Church, CR0 8SD

Refreshments – tea & coffee There is no charge but a place needs to be booked.

Email to book : jenny.wilson@croydonu3a.org.uk

Sponsored by Croydon u3a

More Information

The National Emergency Briefing is a rapidly growing public information programme to make sure that Parliament and the people are clearly and honestly briefed on the climate and nature crisis - an essential step in ensuring that our nation can act at the speed and scale we need.

A groundbreaking briefing was held on the 27th November, at Westminster Central Hall, for more than 1,200 MPs, peers and leaders from business, culture, faith, sport and the media. The event was opened by broadcaster Chris Packham, who introduced evidence-based briefings by leading UK experts on the risks that the crisis poses to the UK in terms of health, food security, national security and the economy.

Core Principles:

1. Evidence-based, non-political content with a focus on science, impacts and practical responses; evidence-based critique of policies, governance gaps and systemic risks are non-partisan
2. No advocacy for electoral outcomes, there will be no encouragement for voting for or against any party or candidate
3. Open participation in follow-up discussions

The film is 50 minutes long to be followed by a Q & A and discussion.

Key Supporters

Royal Meteorological Society

National Trust

Wildlife & Countryside Link

RSPB

Carbon Literacy Project

Newcastle University

Campaign to Protect Rural England

Climate Psychological Alliance

National Education Union

Royal Society of Biology

WWT (for Wet Lands For Life)

University of Reading

The Climate Reality Project

British Ecological Society

A Plastic Planet

<https://www.nebriefing.org/>

Croydon u3a Development Plan 2026-2027

Your Committee has been busy reviewing Croydon u3a's Development Plan. We wanted to examine what has been achieved, how we measure progress and what more needs to be done to comply with our Constitution, u3a Governance and to ensure that we don't just drift along. The new document can be found on the website = www.croydonu3a.org.uk -> About Us -> Governance -> Development Plan. I have sent you the long way round rather than just giving the page reference so you can see at a glance what other important documents are there. Thanks to Joy Ellery (VC) who has led this work.

Croydon u3a Committee's Future in 2026 and beyond.

At the AGM in October several key Committee members will come to the end of their term of office. To ensure the future of our very successful u3a, new blood will bring fresh ideas and energy. We need a small group of members to come forward to discuss what needs to be done. We plan to have a coffee morning meeting with those of you who are interested and discuss how you might like to take it further.

The Committee is a group of Croydon u3a's members who volunteer their time, undertaking the various tasks and duties necessary to support and shape Croydon u3a. We are very willing for you to shadow current members of the Committee over the next year so that you can learn how the Committee works. You will never be left on your own and will always be given support from the rest of the Committee.

Please contact Trisha (Business Secretary) to discuss your initial interest –
E: trisha.holmes@croydonu3a.org.uk

A Visit to the House of Lords

On Monday 16 March, Steve May and Jenny Parry joined other members of the u3a from around the UK on a visit to the House of Lords. This event was arranged by the Third Age Trust as part of its strategy to raise the public profile of the u3a. The House of Lords Communications team is also working to raise public understanding of the work performed by its members and this visit was part of a range of events and activities.



We entered via the historic Westminster Hall, the oldest part of the Palace of Westminster where we were met by a member of staff who led us on a tour of the building. No photography was allowed after departure from Westminster Hall. On arrival in the Attlee Room (named after Clement Attlee, whose government is praised for welfare state reforms and the creation of the NHS), we were introduced to four members of the House of Lords, all of whom have an interest in community wellbeing, lifelong learning and public engagement.

Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle – a life peer – Green Party.

Baroness Susan Garden of Frognaal - Liberal Democrat.

Lord Hampton, a crossbench peer elected to the House of Lords through the hereditary peer by-election system. Unusually for a peer, he continues to work part-time as a teacher in design & technology.

Lord Knight of Weymouth, Labour - a former MP with experience in education, skills & employment.

Each of the peers spoke about their interests and values and how these resonate with those of the u3a in life-long learning and wellbeing.

Questions were invited following introductions. It was revealed that there may eventually be changes in some of the traditions of the Lords. Currently there are 800 lords but only approximately 400 attend regularly. Among changes, the hereditary peer system will be abolished.

The peers acknowledged the huge contribution of volunteers and noted that we need to value more the human potential, although the increased retirement age will reduce volunteer capacity.

A buffet lunch was served and we were joined by Lord Richard Best and Baroness Blackstone who chatted to us about their lifetime interests and careers in education, ageing and independent living, and policies enabling older people to live well for longer.

Following lunch, we were also surprised to be joined by the Lord Speaker, Baron Forsyth of Drumlean. He only recently took office in February 2026, having joined the House of Lords in 1999, previously having been an MP for 14 years. He described his role in the House of Lords, helping to ensure debates run smoothly.

After lunch, we proceeded to the entrance to the House of Lords to await the ceremonial procession preceding the entrance of the Speaker into the chamber. As we were awaiting his arrival, several peers made their way into the chamber for the afternoon's programme, most recognisable among them was Baroness Floella Benjamin.

Following the Speaker's procession, we were led upstairs to the balcony overlooking the chamber. We were able to witness the discussions among the Lords present about several matters of the day, before our visit concluded with the return to Westminster Hall, where we were able to thank the organisers for a very interesting visit.

Jenny Parry

(A longer detailed account of this visit will be published in the next issue of Croydon u3a Magazine. – Steve May)

Artificial Intelligence – are you interested in understanding more about it?

On behalf of Croydon u3a, I recently attended a very detailed and interesting presentation by Alan Freeland, who is the u3a's Network lead on AI and part of the AI for Everyone team.

As most people will know, AI is everywhere and is already involving us in fraud detection, customer services provided by digital assistants (aka Chatbots) and products such as smart speakers e.g. Alexa. It's developing at a rapid pace and could potentially help both u3a Group Leaders and Committee members

Some u3a members are already using Chatbots for research, creatively using them to produce stories, songs, poems, pictures and marketing flyers/posters. Plus using it for admin tasks such as minutes, reports and schedules. Some have even found AI to be very good at producing quizzes!

An AI Chatbot can create text, images, documents or emails and the AI for Everyone team have already trained over 1000 u3a members to use Chatbots effectively.

AI can also help committee members with repetitive tasks providing it is easy to check whether it has been done successfully. One word of caution, it should not be used where mistakes can be costly, either financially or reputationally.

To find out more, Google 'u3a AI for Everyone' and use the results to discover where you can find a range of resources to help get you started.

Cariss Smith

News from the Groups

HELP! Your u3a needs **YOU**: Croydon u3a is proud to provide 70 groups for our members to enjoy. However we are the victims of our own success - as our membership grows, our groups are becoming full. Please do consider becoming a Group Leader - it isn't onerous and you will be supported in setting up and leading a group. You can either start a totally new group (tightrope walking perhaps?) or start a parallel group - such as a walking group - you don't need to think of a walk yourself as we have a range of walks to choose from. For an informal chat - you can phone me on 0208 777 4235 or email me at trisha.holmes@croydonu3a.org.uk

Poetry for Pleasure



Image by lifeforstock on Freepik

Poetry is similar to music in the way it brings memories and emotions to the surface; it can soothe, make you smile or even help you face sadness and find comfort in words that reach out to you. We have room for a couple of extra people in the Poetry for Pleasure group, which meets in a member's home. If you would like to spend a relaxing couple of hours re-visiting old favourites or discovering new ones in friendly company please contact me at the email address below. The poems are chosen by the members – either on a theme or on a particular poet - and the poems of Pam Ayres are as welcome and relevant as are those by Wordsworth and all the poets in between. Each member takes a turn in reading a poem out loud – you don't need to know anything about poetry – but it is very soothing to listen to.

If you are interested please contact Trisha Holmes trisha.holmes@croydonu3a.org.uk

Looking at London Group

In March this year, after coffee in the crypt café some members of the Looking at London Group had an interesting guided tour of Westminster Cathedral.

There was a large increase in the numbers of Catholics in England in the mid 1800s, due to immigration from Ireland, which meant the church needed a Cathedral. It was difficult to find a large enough plot in London, but fortunately, the site of an old prison in Victoria became available and was purchased. A design inspired by the Byzantine style of the early churches in Italy and the middle east was produced, and after fundraising, work on the Cathedral started in 1895.

Brick was used as the main material for speed and economy, and the Cathedral was completed in a remarkably short time, in 1903. This was because it had been decided to get the shell built with the money available, decorating it afterwards. Much of the lower level has been beautifully decorated in the Byzantine style, but the upper levels are still brickwork, and awaiting their turn for completion.



A guided tour is highly recommended, as the side chapels all have different designs, and there were some very interesting stories of their development. The styles used reflect the period in which they were completed, and the congregation is still involved in the ongoing decoration of their beautiful cathedral.

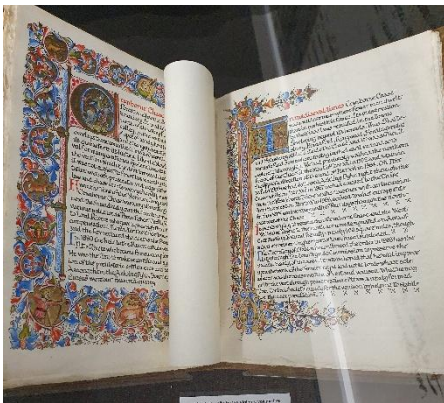
Michelle Reeve

News from the Groups

History of London Group 4

12 members of History of London 4 visited the Guildhall Library, which last year celebrated 600 years since it was first founded with a bequest from Richard Whittington. The Library has a display case exhibition about its history from the original collection of largely religious books, kept on chains to prevent losses, to the current public library with its specialist collections about London's history, the Livery Companies and Marine and Stock Market records.

In addition to the display, Senior Librarian, Melanie Strong, gave us a presentation on the collections and arranged for us to see some of the Library Treasures. Sadly the chains did not prevent the City losing almost all of the original collection when it was "borrowed" and not returned by William Cecil, Lord Burghley. Edward Seymour, 1st Duke of Somerset and Lord Protector of England is blamed for the loss on John Stow's Survey of London though that is now thought to be inaccurate.

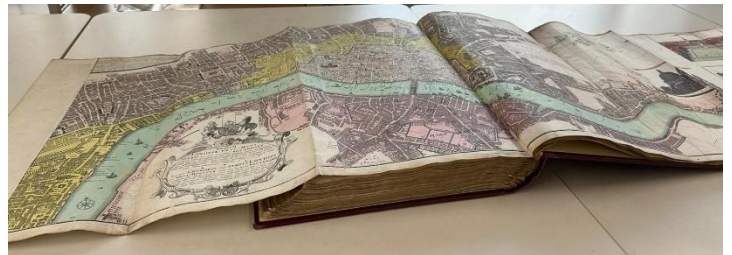


From the early Library, Melanie drew our attention to an original book still with its chain, a book with sections of the Bible rephrased in rhyming couplets, copies of the Nuremberg Chronicle (printed with over 1,800 woodcuts in 1493). Melanie had two copies of the Nuremberg Chronical available - one plain, another with its illustrations hand tinted. The Library has three, two in Latin and one in German. Melanie pointed out that the contents were a mix of the Bible - the Chronicle starts at Genesis - Greek and Roman history and events of medieval Germany. All shown in the contemporary world of 15th century Europe.

Melanie also showed us the Library's copy of the Third Folio of Shakespeare's plays. Printed in 1664 most copies of this book were lost in the Great Fire. It includes seven extra plays, six now thought to

be not Shakespeare's but, its speculated, added to revive sales. We also saw Library's copy of the collected Works of Geoffrey Chaucer printed in 1561, John Stow's Survey of London, which includes the story of Edward Somerset's "borrowing" the first collection, records of the Brewer's Company and an eighteenth century foldout illustrated map of London.

Melanie had also brought out the records of a walking group of British Telecom engineers. The group had initially set out to trace a pilgrimage to Canterbury and had then carried on walking together for about forty years. Two group members had decided to create an illustrated manuscript style record of the walks. One wrote the text and the other learned calligraphy and produced eight volumes which are stunningly beautiful.



Our thanks go to the Library staff for the extra help they gave to us and we recommend visiting the exhibition.

Barbara Lister (Group Leader)

Books Made Into Film

The group now meets at Shirley Community Library, corner of Wickham Road / Hartland Way, Croydon CR0 8BH – third Thursday each month, 11am – 12.30. Why not come along and have a good discussion about books, films, life, the universe and everything. Just bring £2 as a contribution to the Community Library. You can also purchase hot drinks.



Image by Freepik

News from the Groups

Singing for Pleasure

The Singing Group meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at St Matthew's Church, Chichester Road at 10.30 am and finishes at midday. There are now a few places to fill in all voice parts. We sing songs from the shows, folk songs, ballads both in unison and more ambitious arrangements of songs in two or three parts. Something for everyone to enjoy. You are welcome to come along and see if this is for you. You will discover a friendly group who enjoy making music together and also get together to have social gatherings. In July we met to sing special requests, the photo was taken on that occasion when the gentlemen gave a robust rendering of "If I ruled the world" from Pickwick Papers. We also met in the middle of August to enjoy an afternoon tea at one of our member's gardens which we much enjoyed and gave us the opportunity of getting to know one another. We now regularly celebrate New Year at a local restaurant in January.



For seventeen years I have directed the **Singing Group** from the piano and am hoping that since the last time we tried to find an accompanist, which was several years ago, someone may have moved to Croydon who would enjoy having an opportunity to play for us, either regularly or from time to time as suited them. Please get in touch with me if this person is You. My email address is gjibby@hotmail.com.

Gillian Bibby

Ballroom Dancing

Join our Ballroom dancing team where **every age is the perfect age to dance**.

Whether you are a seasoned dancer or taking your very first step, our Ballroom Dancing class is a safe welcoming space where every shuffle, sway and spin is uplifting and energising.

Our Ballroom Dancing team is very supportive with kindness and encouragement to our fellow members. **No partner needed**.

Every step on the dance floor; with the gentle guidance of our professional instructors help us with patience, discipline, confidence and resilience. Ballroom Dancing is no pressure but pure pleasure. Each class costs £7. If you are interested please contact Karen Hook, 07799 776684 karen.hook@hotmail.com



Help with Phones, Laptops and Tablets

If you need IT help, why not pop into the Masonic Hall before the Monthly Meetings where we offer one to one help from 1:30 to 2:15 on a first come first served basis with issues including:

- ✚ Using your laptop, mobile phone or tablet for creating and organising documents, photos and other files.
- ✚ Sending and reading emails and text messages, and keeping in touch by Zoom and WhatsApp.

Just ask for Steve or Vanessa on the day.

News from the Groups

Board Games Fun



Did you know that current research indicates that playing board games helps you to feel good? Well Croydon u3a knows this already! **Board Games Fun** welcomes anyone who wants to have fun on a Friday afternoon: there are 1,000+ games on offer so there will be something for you to try. It's a great way to meet people, have a chat and a laugh - and even discover a skill you never knew you had. Light refreshments are available in the cafe. The group meets every second Friday from 2.30 - 5.30 pm in the Ludoquist Cafe, 63-67 High Street, Croydon, just minutes from the Clocktower library complex. There is a reduced entry fee of £5 to Croydon u3a members. Come along play board games...have fun.

Contact Trisha if you are interested. trisha.holmes@croydonu3a.org.uk

The Darts and Pub Lunch (DAPL) groups meet once a month at a traditional pub near East Croydon station. There's a good bus route and it's within easy walking distance from the station. There's snacks, pub meals at a discount, a comfortable lounge and 2 dart boards and pub games on hand to play. You don't have to be an Eric Bristow or the young talented Luke Littler just have an enthusiasm to try something new.

Playing darts, meeting with other u3a members, staying active and improving your mental fitness are some of the great benefits you get when you join us.



We accept that sometimes we don't hit the Bulls eye but with practice and perseverance we get better over time, it's a rewarding experience. There is also the social aspect of sharing a simple lunch and a drink with likeminded friends and focusing on what you like and feel good about it. We don't plan to produce league players, you're never too old to learn to play darts, it's highly accessible for all abilities and you'll Learn something new, Laugh a lot and Live to tell others just how much fun it can be. For more information contact the coordinator via the Information Groups link on the Croydon u3a website. Group 2 – 4th Wednesday of the month has spaces.

News from the Groups

Botanical Watercolour Painting,

Caje Moniz is now planning another 12-week course in botanical watercolour painting.

Meeting once a week, the course includes:

- ✚ 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 - a detailed list of items will be provided.

To express your interest please contact **Trisha Holmes, Interest Groups Coordinator** trisha.holmes@croydonu3a.org.uk

The Singalong Group

The Singalong Group is now fully established and more members would be welcome! We meet on the 2nd Monday of the month at Shirley Methodist Church'. If you would like to join us please contact Trish Bishop on 07711 229899, email trishbish@outlook.com, or Linda Grigsby on 07754 092042, email lindagrigsby17@gmail.com



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! The next meeting is on Monday 11 May 2026 at 10.30-12 noon and the cost is £4 including refreshments.

Pickleball/Walking Football

Pickleball is a sport which is played by 2 or 4 players using a paddle to hit a plastic ball over a net.

Walking Football is football - but without running or slide tackles? Both games may be played indoors or out. Both are good for your mobility and will keep you fit! Is there anyone who would like to set up a group? Full support will be available. Contact trisha.holmes@croydonu3a.org.uk if you are interested.



News from the Groups

Aqua Aerobics

At CROYDON HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS CLUB

Old Farleigh Road, Selsdon CR2 8YB

Aqua Aerobics is now a regular class meeting in school holidays on the dates below:

Tuesday 14 July at 1pm
Tuesday 21 July at 1.30pm
Tuesday 18 August at 1pm

Contact Linda Grigsby on 07754 092042/ lindagrigsby17@gmail.com to book your place.

The cost is £7



The January meeting of the **Environment & Climate Crisis group** discussed food.

How often do you eat meat? Everyday? More than once a day? A few times a week? Very rarely? Never?

Professor Paul Behrens suggested at the National Emergency Briefing (27.11.25) that we should consume less meat – beef once a fortnight and chicken once a week. The

reasons for reducing consumption are many and include concerns about future food security, animal rights where cows are kept in sheds 24/7, cows' methane burps contributing to greenhouse gas emissions and large land areas given to growing animal feed.



Research is taking place in Canada and Scotland into selective breeding (genome editing) to develop cows which produce burps with less methane. Another area of research is developing lab-grown meat – cutting out the need to raise and kill animals.

Then there are all the meat-free products which mimic meat in appearance and taste. Supermarkets have vast selections of these products, but many appear to be ultra-processed.

We are faced with many choices about what we put on our plates. New members welcome : 3rd Thursdays 7.30pm on zoom.

Contact : jenny.wilson@croydonu3a.org.uk

News from the Groups

Table Tennis

The Table Tennis group has proved to be extremely popular and some changes have been made to ensure that everyone has a chance to play. There are now two groups (as of 20 February 2026). Group 1 will meet from 12.15 to 2.15 led by Andy Gray; Group 2 will meet 2.30 – 4.30 led by Steve May. **Please note Group 2 is FULL.** The venue and day remain the same – St Matthew's Church every Friday. If you are interested in joining Group 1 please contact Andy Gray: andygray64@btinternet.com



This is the opportunity to enjoy a great evening. We meet on-line on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7.30pm. The questions are set by those group members who volunteer and the variety is tremendous. There are no teams, no score sharing & no worries if you can't get a few answers!! We learn a bit along the way and have a great evening.

There is room for new members to the group and there's no charge.

Contact Jenny Wilson – jenny.wilson@croydonu3a.org.uk

Short Courses

From time to time we offer a menu of short courses which last about 6-10 sessions where members are given an introduction to a new skill or subject area. Sometimes these courses become ongoing groups, but they often just provide a taster of something different. **Botanical Watercolour Painting** is currently under way, as is **Philosophy**.



The Anglo Saxons and Their Literature course finished with a trip to Winchester, the Anglo Saxon capital of England. In the cathedral we were very excited to find the mortuary chest that contains the bones of the fabulous Queen Emma! The course will run again in the Autumn 2026, please contact Trisha Holmes to register your interest:

trisha.holmes@croydonu3a.org.uk

Member's photo

Do you have a short course you would like to run? We are always open to suggestions and can offer advice and support.

News from the Groups

Wine Admiration

Group Buddy Visit

I recently spent a very pleasant afternoon with the Wine Admiration group in my role as their group buddy. Cariss, the group leader, Carol and Tony whose house the group were meeting in made me very welcome, as did the other members. We tasted wines, this time chosen by Cariss; members take turns to choose the wines. There were two white, one rose and two red wines to taste. Each wine was discussed in depth, and personal preferences shared. It's fair to say, nobody enjoyed the rosé, which was reduced to half price for good reason. The undoubtable favourite was a red wine from Italy called Marzemino.



Thank you Cariss, Carol, Tony, and Wine Admiration members for their warm welcome.

NEWS FROM THE ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CRISIS GROUP

A recent topic for discussion was the Bank of England's decision to have images of wildlife on the new issues of bank notes:-

- ✚ Nature was the most popular theme in the 44,000 responses to public consultation and focus groups on banknote imagery.
- ✚ Some 60% of respondents selected it as one of their preferred themes, ahead of architecture and landmarks (56%); historical figures (38%); arts, culture and sport (30%); innovation (23%); and noteworthy milestones (19%), the Bank said.
- ✚ In the summer, the public will be invited to say which specific wildlife, native to the UK, from the shortlist they would like to feature on the next series of banknotes. Household pets will not be considered.

Notes from around the world



Our group listed the most and least favourite options. Chris Packham has said he would be in favour of endangered species to spark conversations about the causes and action needed for conservation.

The group's favourites were = bee, frog, harvest mouse, red squirrel, toad, water vole, dormouse, blackbird, wren, stag beetle, newt, beaver, badger, seal, hedgehog, blue butterfly, owl and hare. On the No Thanks list were pigeons, rats and gulls!

When the public is invited, please have your say.

If you are interested in this group E: jenny.wilson@croydonu3a.org.uk

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Shirley Community Library

Wickham Road CR0 8BH

The library offers a shared space to read, learn, meet and enjoy activities. There is a café and rooms for groups to hire. Our Books Made into Films Interest Group now meets in the library – a win-win solution – a comfortable place to hold group meetings which supports community initiatives. And three of our members are volunteers at the library!

Photo: News from Crystal Palace on-line. Some of our member volunteers were at the grand opening



Please note that this is not a u3a group.



A number of our members belong to this group, which is not a u3a

CROYDON u3a TRAVEL TEAM 2026

We are going through interesting times regarding travel at the moment. The conflict in the Middle East is impacting on all our lives and the Travel Team plans for later this year. The jump in fuel costs means that booking a coach for the day is seeing prices rise, and combined with the anticipated higher costs from July for households for gas and electricity etc., we all will feel the impact. And at the time of writing there is no clear resolve of the issues in the Middle East so the future impacts are not clear at present.

One casualty of the above is that the planned trip in September to Brighton to visit two historical buildings has been shelved due to rising costs. But we are looking at other visits using public transport. With London on our doorstep and being able to use the Freedom Pass for travel means we can do trips at a much lower cost.

Thank you to those members who have booked for various trips this year. Demand for these continues to be high and the Travel Team has already started to think about their 2027 programme.

Coming up soon is the Parham House and Gardens trip followed in June by the Thames Boat Trip with lunch. July sees the trip to Sutton Hoo with its reduced cost for those with a National Trust membership. August is generally a quiet month but this year we have two trips using public transport – one to the Old Jewish Quarter and one to Crossness Pumping Station.

The later months of 2026 feature a Members Lunch, a short break to Liverpool and just announced is a trip to the Christmas Market at Rochester. We are waiting for the details of the Bayeux Tapestry exhibition to be released and hope to be able to arrange a group visit to see this historic artifact at the end of the year.

Hopefully by the time the next Bulletin is issued things will have settled down in the world!

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

News from the Travel Team

Report on the Croydon u3a holiday to the Wye Valley and the Forest of Dean

On Friday 27 March 26 members set out on a 5 day break to the Wye Valley and the Forest of Dean, stopping for lunch at Marlborough before arriving at the Bell Hotel and Country Club in Coleford in the Forest of Dean for our 4 night stay.

Our first day took us on a boat trip from Symonds Yat on the river Wye, with a very informative captain sailing on the SS Sinkham (aka Lady Christina), (photo below).

We had visits and photo stops at Tintern Abbey, Hereford, Ross-on-Wye and a ride on a steam train.

Looking at the photos below I believe the highlight of the trip was the evening entertainment at the hotel where many of the members got up to dance to the popular hits of our era (60s & 70s), with many singalongs. I think the host singer was absolutely blown away that he had so many backing singers to his songs! Looks like Arlene and Lucille doing their version of the hand jive!



News from the Travel Team

u3a Outing to Parham House & Gardens

Thursday 21 May 2026

Coach leaves 8:45am from Fairfield Hall, Park Lane, Croydon

Cost of the trip is £45:00 Price includes coach travel, tea/coffee on arrival, drivers tip and entry to Parham House (with guided tour) and Gardens.

Parham is a traditional stone E-shaped Elizabethan mansion, built in 1557. Idyllically set in the heart of an ancient deer park, below the South Downs. The Elizabethan house contains an important collection of needlework, paintings and furniture. Parham has always been a well-loved family home, and only three families have lived here since its foundation stone was laid.



Complete with a Great Hall and spectacular Long Gallery which is the third longest in England, Parham's tranquillity and timeless beauty have changed little over the centuries.

The gardens include a four-acre Walled Garden with stunning herbaceous borders and Pleasure Grounds. **PLEASE NOTE:** There isn't a lift at this historic house so access to the floors is by stairs.

Our visit will arrive mid-morning and after a welcome break for tea/coffee and biscuits we will have guided tours of the house before the general public is admitted.

We will then be free to enjoy Parham's award-winning gardens include the beautiful Pleasure Grounds and a four-acre Walled Garden, complete with stunning herbaceous borders, a 1920s greenhouse, vegetable garden, orchard, and the charming Wendy House. Visitors can enjoy leisurely walks around the Pleasure Grounds and lake, taking in the variety of wildlife and exploring the garden's tranquil corners.

Return the booking form below to: David Apps, 13 Church Way, South Croydon, CR2 0JT. Tel. 020 8651 0347, with a **stamped addressed envelope**

If you have problems on the day of outing, ring David 07802 769047 or email: dapps97090@aol.com.
At other times please use David's landline 0208 651 0347

Please read Travel Team's Terms and Conditions.

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BOOKING FORM – Parham House and Gardens -

Coach leaves at 8:45 am Thursday 21 May 2026. Price: £45:00

u3a Member/s - Name(s) Membership No(s)

Address Postcode.....

Mob No. E-mail

I would like ticket(s). Total £ Cheque payable to "**Croydon u3a**" (enclose a sae) OR: by bank transfer. Acct No: 13630003. Sort Code 23-05-80. **Please put "Parham" as the reference**

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

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

News from the Travel Team

u3a Outing to Sutton Hoo

Wednesday 15 July 2026

Coach leaves at 8.30am from Fairfield Halls, Park Lane, Croydon, (please arrive by 8.15 am for registration) arriving back between 6.30 – 7.00 pm

The cost of this outing is £42 (NT members go in for free so payment is £22.90. You will need to show your card on arrival), includes entrance to Sutton Hoo, 1 hour tour at 1pm, coach and driver's tip

About Sutton Hoo

This hauntingly beautiful 270 acre estate, with far-reaching views over the River Deben, is home to one of the greatest archaeological discoveries of all time.

A 1 hour tour has been booked for us to walk around the **Royal Burial Ground** and enjoy vistas from the 17-metre viewing tower to discover the history of the ship burial of an Anglo-Saxon king and his treasured possessions.



Find out about the archaeological work that took place here in **Tranmer House**, built in 1910, the former home of Edith Pretty, and visit the **High Hall exhibition** to see replica and original objects.

King's River Café is open every day serving a selection of hot/cold drinks, snacks and light bites.

Please note that there are uneven paths around the site.

Return the booking form below to: Linda Grigsby, 37 Albatross Gardens, South Croydon CR2 8QW; Email: lindagrigsby17@gmail.com; mob: 07754092042 OR Karen Hook, Email karen_hook@hotmail.com; mob: 07799 776684. Either pay by **cash/ cheque (payable to Croydon u3a) together with stamped addressed envelope**; 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**);.

BOOKING FORM – Sutton Hoo – 15 July 2026

Leave 8.30am from Fairfield Halls, departing approximately 4-4.30pm, arriving back between 6-6.30pm.

Name(s)..... Membership No(s)
Address
Postcode: Mob No. E-mail
I would like ticket(s). Total £.....
My contact in case of emergency is:

Crossness Pumping Station and The Great Stink Exhibition

Wednesday 26th August 2026 – 10.15 am meet at East Croydon or 11.20 am at Abbey Wood station

- ✚ **Numbers limited to 20 people.**
- ✚ **Travel by train to Abbey Wood station from station.**
- ✚ **The cost of this outing includes admission and taxi from Abbey Wood**

Only 3 places left

“The Cathedral on the Marshes”, the Crossness Pumping Station was a Victorian masterpiece. Built in 1865 at the end of the southern sewage outfall, it housed four steam-driven beam engine pumps. The building was last used in 1953 and then abandoned. The Crossness Engines Trust was founded in 1985. We are booked in for a guided tour at 1 pm, and this takes approximately 2-3 hours.



- ✚ There will be Tea, coffee and biscuits (and toilets, lots of toilets!)
- ✚ An introductory talk on the sanitation crisis that led to the construction of the sewers.
- ✚ A Guided tour of the Crossness Pumping Station and it’s historic engines

More details available at www.crossness.org.uk

Return the booking form below to: Andy Gray, 36 Eland Road, Croydon, CR0 4LG; Mob: 07979284343, Email: andygray64@btinternet.com **OR** Linda Grigsby, 37 Albatross Gardens, South Croydon CR2 8QW; Email: lindagrigsby17@gmail.com ; mob: 07754092042. Either pay by **cash/ cheque (payable to Croydon u3a) together with stamped addressed envelope**, at the Monthly Meeting in the Masonic Halls, **OR** by Bank Transfer account no. 13630003, sort code 23-05-80 (**Crossness as reference/outing name**)

BOOKING FORM – Crossness and The Great Stink Exhibition – 26th August 2026

Meet at East Croydon station at 10.15am for 1031 Thameslink train to Farringdon or 11.20am at Abbey Wood Station. Return time in Croydon approx. 5pm (depending on trains)

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

Address

Postcode:Mob No.E-mail

I would like ticket(s). Total £.....

My contact in case of emergency is: NameTel. No.

News from the Travel Team

City Surprises

A City of London Walk with Sheila Batchelor

Thursday 17th September 2026

Following her very popular London walk last summer, Sheila Batchelor (a Green Badge Guide and Croydon u3a member) is leading a walk to take place on **Thursday 17th September. (time tbc)**

The walk will be largely on the flat, but there may be some steps. More details nearer the time

We will meet at Choo Choo Kiosk at East Croydon station at 10.20am and travel by train to City Thameslink station where we will meet Sheila on the concourse at 11am. We will walk for approximately 45 minutes, then stop for refreshments and a toilet break. The walk will finish at approximately 1pm where there will be the opportunity for those of us who want to, to have lunch. If you do not wish to have lunch, you are free to make your way home.

✚ The cost of the walk is £5, to include a free coffee or tea.

✚ Lunch is not included in the cost. Venue for lunch will be decided nearer the time.

DO NOT PAY ANY MONEY. The walk is limited to 15 people and tickets will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. You will be informed if you have a place, asked for emergency contact details, and if you will be having lunch and asked to pay £5.

YOU MUST HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS TO APPLY.

If you would like to come along please either; **email** Anne Tanner, anne.tanner@croydonu3a.org.uk giving your name, membership number, and emergency contact number **OR** complete the form below, and hand it in to the Travel Team at the monthly meeting or send to Anne Tanner, 13 Houlder Crescent, Waddon, CR0 4EL.

✂-----

I would like to go on the City Surprises walk on 17th September 2026. I understand that I will only send payment once I am allocated a place.

Name: _____ M-ship No: _____

Mobile No: _____ Email: _____

My contact number in case of emergency is: _____

LIVERPOOL

Monday 5 – Friday 9 October 2026

A 3-tier payment plan has been devised to help you, if you need it: For members sharing a room the cost is £628 (£75 non-returnable deposit, £276.50 payable by the 15 April, and final balance of £276.50 payable by 1 August 2026. For those members having a single room £727 with £99 single supplement): (£75 non-returnable deposit, £326 payable by the 15 April, and final balance of £326 payable by 1 August 2026

4 nights – bed and breakfast at the Hard Days Night Hotel in Liverpool <https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/liverpool/hard-days-night-hotel-liverpool/>

What is included in the cost:

- ✚ 4 nights dinner, bed, breakfast.
- ✚ Excursion on the Wednesday for a full day in Chester
- ✚ Luxury coach travel throughout
- ✚ Porterage at the hotel
- ✚ Driver's tip

Optional trips: Several places of interest including the Beatles Story, British Music Experience and many more are within a short distance of the hotel, including:

- ✚ Liverpool 'Blue Route' – City and Beatles Tour, which lasts for 1 hour 30 minutes at a cost of £20
- ✚ 50 minute Mersey River Cruise for 50 minutes, at a cost of £13
- ✚ A Walk Through Time: History of Liverpool Walking Tour, for 1 hour 50 minutes, which costs £17
- ✚ City Explore: Hop on Hop off Liverpool Sightseeing Bus Tour, lasting for 1 hour, at a cost of £14



LIVERPOOL 5-9 October 2026

Return the booking form below to: Linda Grigsby, 37 Albatross Gardens, South Croydon CR2 8QW; Email: lindagrigsby17@gmail.com; mob: 07754092042 **OR** Cariss Smith, 62 Penwortham Road, South Croydon CR2 0QS; Mob: 07904 163454,. Either pay by **cash/ cheque (payable to Croydon u3a) together with stamped addressed envelope**; 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**); Name(s)Membership No(s)

Address:Post Code.....

Tel. No.E-mail

I would like tickets for the Liverpool.

My contact name and telephone details in case of emergency is

News from the Travel Team

Croydon u3a Members' Lunch at Maple Restaurant

29-31 Limpsfield Road, Sanderstead CR2

Wednesday 21 October 2026 at 12.30 pm

(on the 403 Bus Route)

2 courses £25 including service charge

(Please indicate on the booking form below your menu choice)

Mains

- a) Salmon & Smoked Haddock Fish Pie
- b) Mushroom & Tarragon Pie (V option available)
- c) Roast Chicken Supreme

Desserts

- d) Brûlée Bread & Butter Pudding
- e) Chocolate Mousse
- f) Chef Selection of Ice Cream & Sorbet

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Croydon u3a Members' Lunch
MAPLE Restaurant, 29-31 Limpsfield Road, Sanderstead CR2 9LA
at 12.30pm

(Please make your selection here - Main: a/b/c

Dessert: d/e/f

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 by Bank Transfer account no.
13630003, sort code 23-05-80 OR pay at the Monthly Meeting. (YOU MUST PUT YOUR 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

u3a Outing to Rochester Christmas Market

Friday 4 December 2026

**Coach leaves at 10 am from Fairfield Halls, Park Lane, Croydon
returning approximately 3.30 pm**

Price £18 (Price includes coach travel, driver's tip)

Rochester Christmas Market is set in the spectacular Rochester Castle Gardens, with the impressive 11th Century Norman keep as a backdrop. Located in the historic Rochester Castle Gardens, with over 120 stalls, the market is Kent's biggest free to enter public Christmas Market.

The focus of the market is to showcase traders with products and festive treats that cannot be found on the High Street. This includes locally produced and sustainable gifts, clothing and homeware, and artisan goods and foods.

Shoppers can enjoy a variety of festive food and drink on offer within the Bavarian Village, watch live entertainment performed on the bandstand, and enjoy the family funfair.

What's in store for us at Rochester Christmas market:

- ✚ Delicious food & drink from freshly made donuts to indulgent Christmas Dinner wraps, plus mulled wine and hot chocolate
- ✚ Unique shopping – browse with one of kind gifts
- ✚ Festive atmosphere – twinkling lights, historic charm and plenty of traditional Christmas cheer
- ✚ Unique to Rochester Christmas Market is the 'quiet shopping time' between 12noon – 3pm for those of a gentler, more inclusive festive experience, with adaptations such as:
 - ✚ No fair sounds, or bangs
 - ✚ Reduced capacity
 - ✚ Daytime setting



Return the booking form below to: Linda Grigsby, 37 Albatross Gardens, South Croydon CR2 8QW; Email: lindagrigsby17@gmail.com; mob: 07754092042 **OR** Karen Hook, Email karen_hook@hotmail.com; mob: 07799 776684. Either pay by **cash/ cheque (payable to Croydon u3a) together with stamped addressed envelope**; 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**);.

BOOKING FORM – Rochester Christmas Market – 4 December 2026

Leave 10.00am from Fairfield Halls, departing approximately 3.30pm, arriving back between 5-5.30pm.

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

Address

Postcode:Mob No.E-mail

I would like ticket(s). Total £.....

My contact in case of emergency is:

News from the Travel Team

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. **PLEASE INCLUDE AN EMERGENCY CONTACT PHONE NUMBER, WHICH MUST BE LOCATED IN THE UK.**

Coach Pick up and Drop off are at Fairfield Halls concourse 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: **EITHER** make payment online to Croydon u3a - Account No. 13630003 Sort Code 230580 **Reference** – insert the **Name of the Trip**. If you are paying for someone else insert their name and the name of the trip. **OR** alternatively, pay by cheque payable to Croydon u3a. Please send your completed Booking Form, cheque and self-addressed envelope to the address given on the Booking Form. **OR** make a payment at the Monthly Meeting at the Travel Desk.

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, & 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, which MUST be a number in the UK. 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 INTEREST GROUPS

Contact: Trisha Holmes 020 8777 4235 - trisha.holmes@croydonu3a.org.uk should you be interested in any of the groups. (Apr 2026). Please note that * denotes Group is FULL (please enquire whether there is a waiting list)

<u>Group Title</u>	<u>Day of the Month</u>	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Venue</u>
<u>Action Groups</u>			
Ballroom Dancing	1 & 4 Tuesdays	11.00–12.00	SMC
Chair Yoga	2 & 4 Mon & 1,2,3 Fri	10.00 am	Zoom
	1 & 3 Mondays *	10.15 am	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 1	Every Friday	12.15-2.15 pm	St Matthew's Church
Table Tennis 2	Every Friday *	2.30 -4.30 pm	St Matthew's Church
Tai Chi 1	1 & 3 Mondays	12.45-1.45 pm	SMC
Tai Chi 2	1 & 3 Mondays	2.00 – 3.00pm	SMC
<u>Active outdoor Groups</u>			
Cycling	1 Weds & 3 Thurs	Varies	Varies
Historic Visits	4 Thurs *	Varies	Outings
Riverside & Canal Walks	3 Weds April – Oct *	Varies	Varies
Riverside & Canal Walks(2)	4 Weds April – Oct *	Varies	Varies
Riverside & Canal Walks(3)	3 Tues Jan – Nov *	Varies	Varies
Riverside & Canal Walks(4)	3 Friday April – Oct *	Varies	Varies
Riverside & Canal Walks(5)	4 Friday April – Oct *	Varies	Varies
Short Walks	2 & 4 Thurs	10.30 am	Varies
<u>Arts & Crafts</u>			
Knit & Natter	2 & 4 Tues *	11.00 am	Home – Waddon
Painting & Drawing 1	Every Mon *	10.15	St John's Selsdon
Painting & Drawing 2	Every Mon	10.15 am	SMC
<u>Cultural Activities</u>			
Architecture	3 Thur *	10.00 am	Various
A Taste of World Cuisines	1 Tues *	Lunch time	Various
Art Appreciation	4 Fri	2.00pm	SMC
China	3 Tues	10.00 am	Zoom
Croydon Memories	4 Fri *	12.00 noon	The Boulevard
Focus on Africa	4 Tues	10.30 am	Central Library
Into Film	Thurs Varies *	2.00 pm	David Lean cinema
South Bank	Varies	Varies	Varies
Theatre Visits	Varies	Varies	Varies
Wine Admiration	1 or 2 Fri *	2.00pm	Home – Various
<u>Games of Skill</u>			
Board Games Fun	2 Fri	2.30pm	Ludoquist Café, Croydon
Darts & Pub Lunch 1	2 Tues *	12.00 midday	The Orchard Pub
Darts and Pub Lunch 2	4 Weds	12.00 midday	The Orchard Pub
Mah Jong	Varies	Varies	t.b.a
Quiz Nights	3 Mon	7.30 pm	Zoom
Rubber Bridge	Every Tues	2.00pm	Mildred Crt, Addiscombe
<u>Gardening Groups</u>			
Love Gardening	1 Mon	10.30 am	Various
Wild Flowers	4 Monday (March to Sept)	10.30 am	Various

<u>Group Title</u>	<u>Day of the Month</u>	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Venue</u>
<u>Languages</u>			
French Conversation (lower/Intermediate)	Every Mon	10.00am	PUR Church
French Conversation (Adv)	2 & 4 Tues	2.30pm	Zoom
German Friends	Mons	10.15	Zoom
Italian – Conversation	1 Fri *	10.00 am	Home – Purley
Russian – Intermediate	1 & 3 Wed	10.00am	Home – Croydon
Spanish Conversation (lower/Intermediate)	Every Mon	11.00am	PUR
<u>Literature</u>			
Book Club	3 Wed	2.00pm	Home
Books Made into Films	3 Thurs <i>members welcome</i>	11.00 am	Shirley Comm Library
Play Reading Selsdon	1 Mon *	2.00pm	Home various
Poetry for Pleasure	2 Tues	2.00pm	Home Addiscombe
Share a Good Read	2 Mon *	2.30 pm	St Johns, Selsdon
Writing for Pleasure Group	1 Wed	2.00 – 4.00 pm	SMC
	3 Wed	7.00pm	Zoom
<u>Maths, Science & IT</u>			
Science & Technology	2 Tues	8.00pm	Zoom
<u>Music</u>			
Blues & Jazz Appreciation	Varies	Varies	Various
Guitar Improvers	2 & 4 Tue	10.30 am	SMC
Mandolin	By arrangement	By arrangement	Home, Addiscombe
Singalong	2 Monday	10.30 am	SMC
Singing for Pleasure	2 & 4 Wed	10.30 am	St Matthews Church
Ukulele	Thur (12 weeks)	10.30	PURCh
<u>Social Studies/History</u>			
17 th – 19 th Century History	1 Wed	2.30pm	Home – Central Croydon
Early Medieval History	1 Tues	2.30pm	Home – Central Croydon
Environment & Climate Crisis	3 Tues	7.30pm	Zoom
History – Local	2 Fri *	2.00pm	Home – Wallington + visits
History of London 1	1 & 3 Tues *	10.00 am	PUR + Outings
History of London 2	2 & 4 Tues *	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
Members on Their Own (MOTO)	Various	Various	Various
Tracing Your Ancestors	4 Wed *	2.00pm	THL
Transport	3 Mon *	10.30 am	CC + outings

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