

Dear Bexley u3a members,

Recently, several members have been complimentary about the running of Bexley u3a. Thank you very much. It's lovely to be appreciated!

We've been blessed with good weather where a couple of our groups have recently been out and about, having a lovely time in each other's company and learning something at the same time. And hopefully you can see the photographic evidence! On 23rd April, a merry band of More of London members travelled to The Royal Mews in London, for a tour. We were able to see horses, carriages and the Queen Mother's car up close. An audiovisual guide supported what we could see with additional facts.



On Sunday, 3rd May, The Steam Group headed to The Kirkcaldy Testing Museum, after a stop for a nice lunch at Borough Market!



Kirkcaldy set up his testing machine and other machines, following The Tay bridge disaster in Victorian times. Concrete and steel were subsequently tested for appropriate strength according to the application.



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Please send write ups of what YOUR groups

New members settling in, please volunteer your skills to set up groups to share with others. Older members, if your group is constantly full, please clone yourselves, to support new people.

Group Leaders! Any people attending your events must be able to produce a valid Bexley u3a membership card.

The Third Age Trust (National u3a) have recently taken their cut of your membership fees. I would encourage you to get your money's worth. Look what other activities you can apply for through National u3a and London u3a websites. These can be accessed through our website at <https://bexley.u3asite.uk/about> by clicking on this link. Some activities are free and some have a small charge and must be booked in advance.

More of London group, run by Carol Durndell and I can offer a few vacancies on our planned trips. (Members only at this stage, expressions of interest need to be followed up with the appropriate admission price. Sorry, yawn! These are:

Horniman Museum Visit by More of London group on the 13th May.



Fulham Palace, 10th July. A few places. £15 for a guided tour. £5 donation to do it yourself.

The Charterhouse Visit. 20th October. A few places. Guided tour, tea and biscuits, £16.20. Some members who expressed an interest haven't followed up with a payment, which is necessary to confirm the place. For both trips please confirm interest first and I'll contact you about a place and payment:

caserosemary5@gmail.com

There are two coach trips for which places remain. Vacancies are for Bexley u3a members only, at the moment, this may change nearer the time to include friends and members from other u3as. We can accept names and payments at our second Thursday in the month meetings. Contact email:

caserosemary5@gmail.com

Whitstable, 15th September, £17.

Winchester Cathedral Christmas Market, 26th November, £26.

Back in the day, our Socials were beautifully catered for by Vi and Doreen. That luxury has gone, BUT, those members who are prepared to form a catering team with Lesley Draper to try to go back to those days, please let her know. Ticket prices will NOT be £2! No team no food! We can announce that the CIU club will support our Summer and Christmas Socials. They've been very helpful since we arrived. Our Summer Social is now on Thursday, 13th August 2026, at the CIU club. This is a change of venue and date from that which was previously advertised. Our Christmas Social will be on Thursday, 10th December, 2026, at the CIU club.

I hope everyone is enjoying the lovely weather!

See you soon!

Rosey

Chair.

Future Meetings in the New Year will be held at The CIU club, down the side of Primark, Bexleyheath!

2026:-

May 14th – Loft Clearance, Written and performed by Eileen Mahony

June 11th – Fraud Advice Workshop. Chloe Lawson. Natwest.

July 9th – Dickens' London. Diane Burstein

August 13th – **Summer Social: CIU club: volunteers for a catering team most welcome! Please see Lesley Draper.**

September 10th – John Rayment: History of Thames Sailing Barges

October 8th – Peter Allen (Speaker who gave talk on TV Detectives):
“Pantomimes.”

November 12th – AGM

December 10th - Christmas Social CIU Club. Volunteers for a catering team most welcome!

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Current Bexley U3A Groups

Alternative Book Group (v); Armchair Travellers (vs); Choir (vs); Creative Writing; Crochet; Family History Advanced; Advanced French Conversation; French Intermediate; Italian (vs) Jazz appreciation (vs); Knit and Natter (vs) ; Life Story and Reminiscence (vs); More of London; Play Reading(vs); Poetry Reading; Rummikub; Scrabble; Spanish Beginners (v) Spanish Intermediate{vs}; Steam Trains (vs); Strollers(vs) Table Top Games (vs); Tea Cake and Chat (vs). Fun Choir (vs) Classical Concert Visits (new) (vs); Furze Wren Coffee Morning, (open to all) New Acoustic Group (vs)

If you are interested in any of the above groups, please go to the website for contact details, or speak to a Committee member at meetings.

We, as a committee, will ensure that your enquiry reaches the correct Group Leader and you receive a response.

If you are a Group Leader please keep Lesley and Luigi informed of any alterations to times of meetings, change of leadership details, vacancies etc and photographic evidence of your group enjoying their activities.

Many thanks.

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**Executive Committee 2025 - 2026**

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|---------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| Chair               | Rosey Case           |  |  |
| Vice Chair          | <b>VACANCY</b>       |  |  |
| Secretary           | Liz Salter           |  |  |
| Speakers' Secretary | Lesley Draper        |  |  |
| Treasurer           | Luigi Lipparelli     |  |  |
| Membership          | <b>Pat Moss</b>      |  |  |
| Committee Member    | <b>Carol Durdell</b> |  |  |

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