

Dear Bexley u3a members,

I must get the weather reference out of the way – I can't help myself! At the beginning of June , I was moaning about wearing jumpers, and now it's almost too hot for clothes at all!

Carol Durndell, our new Group Co-ordinator, has provided a few lines on lively Bexley group activities. Interest Group News.

During the month of June, a couple of groups have been active, despite adverse weather conditions! In particular, the More of London Group visited The Guildhall in London and took part in a guided tour, with in -depth information on the history of the City of London.



The new Arts and Crafts group had their first meeting and spent a lovely afternoon crafting and chatting. This activity takes place at the 151 club.

The interest groups are the backbone of the u3a organisation and hence very important. Have you sometimes thought, I wish there was a group that did... How about starting your own group, especially if you have a particular interest or hobby that you think others would be interested in, too? The Committee are here to help, support and encourage you, should you decide to pursue such a venture.

If you are interested in joining any groups, or if you are interested in starting a new group, please contact Carol Durndell at: carol.durndell@ntlworld.com and she will either contact you or put the group leader in touch with you.

Over the weekend, Lesley's classical concert group enjoyed a recital at St James' Church in Sidcup. The new Concert goers group visited the Mick Jagger Centre in Dartford and enjoyed an evening of music by the Dartford Symphony Orchestra.



The Steam Group visited the Bredgar and Wormshill railway, down in deepest Kent. We rode trains, were in the back of a tractor for a ride, saw enthusiasts with remote controlled Semi trucks, marvelled at the old classic cars and tractors, plus farm machinery that would take your hand off! We used their café for refreshments. The weather was pleasant, not too hot.

We have approached a former FIFA and FA cup final referee who is prepared to tell us about his dealings with famous footballers. He will be a speaker in the New Year.

Welling u3a have access to our coach trips to Whitstable and Winchester. Please buy your tickets now, to avoid disappointment.

Next month is our Summer Social and tickets are on sale, now, at £5 each, from Luigi. If you intend to come please buy a ticket as we shall only be able to cater for tickets sold beforehand. Please also let us know if you have any allergens. We are going to try and provide sandwiches this year. If you can help on the day, with in house catering, please let Lesley know. The original singer can't make it. We have a mystery gentleman, called Asa.

Needless to say, the temperatures we're experiencing are very dangerous. Please take every precaution and keep well hydrated and drink plenty of water.

More of London doesn't have any trips booked in August. I hope you can enjoy lovely holidays.

Lastly, a dreadful dad joke. What do you call a magician who has lost his magic? Ian.

Toodles for now from,
Rosey,

Chair. Bexley u3a.

Footnote. A former leading light of Bexley u3a, June Chambers, has recently passed away, aged 92 or 93. She was a Group Leader for many years. Maureen Wright is trying to find out funeral details, for those who might wish to attend.

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

2026:-

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. Talk being arranged

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; (vs) 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, third Wednesday in the month, (open to all) New Acoustic Group (vs) New Arts and Crafts Group (starting July, 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          | Pat Moss         |  |  |
| Group Co-Ordinator  | Carol Durndell   |  |  |

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