

Hi everyone !

The British love talking about the weather, however there is nothing we can do to change it. So let us make the most of today's weather, and enjoy the CGu3a Summer Café.

LONDON WALKS GROUP—WATERLOO & LAMBETH

On a day of glorious sunshine, our party of 14 met up with guide John Colman at the Windrush Memorial in Waterloo Station. From there we set off on a walk with an array of diverse places of interest.

First stop was The Old Vic Theatre and a detailed account of its history. Through the market at Lower Marsh Road to Westminster Bridge Road where the remaining frontage of Westminster Bridge House is the location from which trains on the Necropolis Line transported the deceased for burial and the mourners to Brookwood Cemetery in Surrey. This service ran from 1854 until 1941. We appreciated the shade of the trees as we passed through Archbishop's Park emerging by Lambeth Palace, residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and adjoining it, the formerly named St Mary's Church and Tower which now is the Museum of Garden History.

We moved onto the Albert Embankment close to the Lambeth Bridge coated in red paint which we learned symbolises the colour of the benches in the House of Lords, whereas the verdant green coloured painted on Westminster Bridge which we next passed relates to the seats in the House of Commons. Along the embankment you cannot help being moved by the quarter of a million red hearts painted along the length of the wall of St Thomas's Hospital each representing a life lost to covid. There is also a brilliant memorial to members of the SOE who went into occupied Europe during World War II aware that life expectancy or being caught was a mere six weeks.

The final stretch of the walk took us behind the Old County Hall (now a hotel and shops); the site of the former General Lying-In Wait Hospital (now a hotel); Jubilee Gardens where the 1951 Festival of Britain was held; past the London Eye; and rounding off at Southbank Centre by the Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall and the National Film Theatre.



It had proved to be an excellent walk full of interesting information. However with sun beating down from a clear blue sky and I-Phones recording nearly 10,000 steps, it was undoubtedly time for cold refreshment.

Tony Jackson

SPEAKER'S CORNER

There is no speaker at the meeting in June

The speaker at the July meeting will be Simon Keable and the subject is entitled

“1920s Tahiti”

INTEREST GROUPS

Refreshment Rota



Jun 5th	BSL/Cinema
Jul 3rd	Cycling
Aug 7th	Curios: Old & New
Sep 4th	Family History 1
Oct 2nd	Family History 2
Nov 6th	Flower Arranging

BADMINTON GROUP

Are you interested in joining our group - new members welcome. We meet at Greenwood Park Sport Hall on the 1st and 3rd Friday and 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from: 10.00am to noon.

Please Contact: Keith Manning
Email: amber9349@btinternet.com

STOP PRESS

Introducing a new travel initiative along the lines run by the late Mary Gotts. It is not in competition with existing arrangement so ably run by Joy and Tony, but for longer trips in UK and abroad. VCV has set up a similar arrangement and although both are independent we will arrange trips in conjunction with each as many members belong to both. The inaugural trip is now available. Full details from Adrian Wilson (use email on our website).

WINGS & WHEELS GROUP

The Group visited the London Transport Museum, situated in Covent Garden, London. It is an amazing place if you are interested in transport vehicles, the history of the provision of public transport in London or just a fun day out and enjoy the exhibits. These are substantial and range from actual buses, locomotives, underground carriages, down to how tickets have changed in the last 150 years. There are many artefacts associated with the management of the public transport system, but the full size original vehicles are presented in excellent condition. We were able to view and enter rolling stock from the first Underground trains of the Victorian era to other trains across the 20th Century. This was all very interesting and of course very nostalgic to see the artefacts from the second half of the 20th Century which we recognised from our childhood.



Personally, I found the guided tour of the poster artwork, that were put up inside and outside of railway stations buses and bus stops etc, exceptionally interesting. London Transport commissioned many excellent artists over the decades and several posters had a hidden logo or message within the poster artwork. We had a wonderful guide to the posters who knew everything we needed to know. I particularly like the poster from 1930 for London Zoo where the people are in cages and the animals are watching them! A good day out.



Alan Potter

BLACK COUNTRY LIVING MUSEUM—A STEP BACK IN TIME

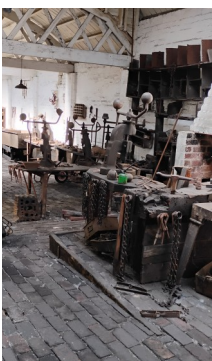
What a wonderful day! Any anxiety we might have felt over the two hour journey was unfounded, and the motorways were generally kind to us. Arriving on time, in brilliant sunshine, we were quickly signed in and started to explore (after a quick coffee stop, of course).

There was so much to see, and the groups dispersed to their different areas of particular interest. We wandered from the 1930s through to the 50s and 60s, up to the 70s, with plenty of comments: “My grandmother had one of those” or “Oh, I had one of those as a wedding present!” Not only were all the houses and shops set out to capture the imagination, staff in appropriate costumes for their eras were on hand to provide information and insight into the displays. Even out in the streets we were provided with interesting details about the old post box (from Baker Street, in London) or the pigeon loft. We bought Eccles cakes at the bakers, and indulged ourselves with wonderful fish and chips...the chips cooked in good old-fashioned beef dripping. Sadly, items in the pubs and shops were at today's prices, not those from 1930s.

The industrial side of the museum was equally fascinating, though seeing some of the conditions the workers endured was unsettling. In the chain-making shop women and even young children were employed in hot, heavy work which would appal a modern Health and Safety officer. Some of our small group ventured down the mine, learning about just how grim, dark and dangerous conditions were. Others went on the canal trip, which, much to our surprise because we hadn't read up on it first, went underground.

That many of the buildings had been moved, brick by brick from other towns and villages nearby, was obviously a labour of love, but really helped to give the impression that this could have been an original vibrant community, not just a museum. Several members were heard discussing a return visit with family members, a sure sign of a successful trip. Thank you Joy.

Sue Griffiths



IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING TRIPS

Please remember to have with you or wear your CG Membership card and, more importantly, an up to date emergency contact card, preferably kept together on a lanyard. Details of each event can be found in the Newsletter or on our website. Please note the month when tickets are available for trips. Purchase of tickets (cheques only please) can be made at our monthly meetings via Joy Dabson, Event Organiser.

Tickets: Chiswell Green u3a members ONLY for the first month when tickets for trips are on sale. Tickets for guests will be allowed in the second month when they are on sale. This is to avoid waiting lists for members when guests have taken up places. Tickets must be paid for on the day they are booked, with cheques made payable to "Chiswell Green u3a". Please ensure when writing cheques in payment for Trips that you have filled it in EXACTLY correctly, and write your membership number on the reverse. Loyds bank is returning cheques with mistakes even if the change is initialled. Cheques are paid into the bank as and when they are received, unless otherwise stated. If paying for more than one outing by post, please send separate cheques for each event. Obviously, they can go in the same envelope. If you wish to make a booking for an outing, you can still do so by contacting the Event Organiser (Joy Dabson) by phone (01923 268018) or email (trips@chiswellgreenu3a.org.uk) or via our website. Payments should be made within seven days.

Pickup point: The coach will be in Tippendell Lane, at the entrance to Greenwood Park. Please be **prompt** – the coach will not wait. A driver's tip is included in the price of the outing. **If you are unable to go on an outing, or running late**, please contact the Event Organiser by phone, up to 10pm the night before the trip landline (01923 268018) or on the day landline FIRST and if no reply then events mobile (07824 671857). Please make a note of this number. If someone is able to take your place, you may be able to have a refund but this cannot be guaranteed. Ideas and suggestions for trips are always welcomed, and can be placed in the Suggestion Box on the signing table.

****Disclaimer:**** If you are participating in any Chiswell Green u3a trip or event, please read the Disclaimer below.

It is the personal responsibility of each member to decide on their own capability to participate in any trips or events organised by the Chiswell Green u3a. Chiswell Green u3a cannot accept any responsibility for your fitness to undertake a trip or participate in a group, event or journey. By committing to any activity you will be declaring that you are fit and able to participate in the said activity.

Tuesday 8th July 2025—GWSR STEAM TRAIN and STANWAY HOUSE

Selling June

A trip to the Cotswolds. At Toddington Railway Station there is the opportunity to visit Gloucestershire Warwickshire Steam Railway (GWSR) and its loco yard. Also there, the Restoration & Archiving Trust operates three small displays of artefacts. Take your own picnic, or go to the café that serves a wide range of hot and cold drinks, lunches, snacks and their famous cake.

A return ticket (train at 13.15 hours) takes us for a ride on a GWSR train. It's a 31 minute trip ride to Cheltenham Race Course and with time for photos. On return to Toddington there is a short coach trip to Stanway House.

The House is a perfect example of a Cotswold Jacobean manor house, and since 1533 has been lived in by the Tracys of Stanway and their descendants the Earls of Wemyss. As well as the House, you can wander in the grounds where there are avenues, specimen trees and an 18th-century water-garden featuring a gravity fountain. Afternoon Cream Teas, homemade cakes, hot & cold drinks, and locally produced ice-cream are available.



Depart Greenwood Park: 9.15am

Depart for home: 5.00pm approx

Cost: £51.00

Thursday 14th August 2025—KENTWELL

Selling June

One of England's finest and most beautiful Tudor Houses, surrounded by a broad fish-filled moat. We visited in 2023. An excellent day out for the Tudor High Summer 1535. The vast estate was brought to life by the fabulous volunteer living historians spread throughout the gardens, farm and woodlands often with children and grandparents all taking part in traditional costume, talking in the dialect of the time, working traditional crafts to serve the great house. The vast kitchen gardens, flower and herb gardens with ancient apple trees was really impressive and tended by volunteers in full costume of the day. The servants in the dairy, bakehouse, brewhouse and great kitchen all used traditional methods and recipes, to prepare food and drink for all the household, estate workers and the gentry.

The volunteer living historians dress, talk, eat, drink, and use tools of the time, thus immersing themselves into that period of history. For the visitor this enables you to step back in time with all the sights, sounds and smells. See the house and gardens "alive and working"! A fantastic experience highly recommended, lots to see, check out the camera obscura, outside the front gates there is a picnic area with toilets (modern) nearby. There is a stable yard tea room, or bring a picnic.

Depart Greenwood Park: 9.30am

Depart for home: 4.30pm approx

Cost: £38.00

Tuesday 2nd September 2025—EAST LONDON WATERWAYS BOAT TRIP Selling June

This boat trip is by the Lee & Stort Boat Company. We aim to arrive at our coach drop off point at approx. 11.30am in time to walk the few yards to our boat for a 12 noon departure. Take your own picnic lunch, and top up with drinks/chocolates etc from the bar's extensive stock. All the boats are mobility accessible with toilets.



It is a three hour guided tour within the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, with views of London Stadium, the AcelorMittal Orbit, the newly refurbished Carpenters Road Lock and along the Old River Lea. We pass the "Big Breakfast House" before entering the Lee Navigation and St Thomas Creek. Here we join City Mill River where you will enjoy fantastic views of the Stadium and Orbit before going through the Lock again to cruise to the north of the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park with uninterrupted views of the award-winning parklands, gardens and the iconic Olympic venues.

Depart Greenwood Park: 10:30am

Depart for home: 4:00pm

Cost: £38.00

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

TRIP

2025 date

Coach trip to visit Windsor

Thursday, October 9th

Selling July

Dep Greenwood Park: 09.30am Dep to home: 4.00pm Cost: £17.00

Xmas Light Trail at Blenheim Palace

Wednesday, November 26th

Selling August

Dep Greenwood Park: 04.30pm Dep to home: 9.00pm Cost: £38.00

PARKING: Could we please remind members not to park in either of the car parks at Greenwood Park if you are going on one of our trips. If parking in local roads, please park with consideration for the local residents, and if possible, car share to help ease the parking problem. **Thank you.**



Xmas

Light

Trails

And finally...

recently seen at an eatery

