

# Hi everyone!

According to the Met Office we are officially in Spring—who would have believed it. Over the last couple of weeks with the rain and the cold, we were wondering if Spring would ever come, let alone the Summer. However, we did have the snowdrops and the daffodils are blooming within the community. It would seem that Joy's first trip of the year was successful, and we can look forward to more trips and activities throughout the year.

## WOULD YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO?

How many of us have witnessed someone having a cardiac arrest? Did you know what action to take?

Be ready for that day. Learn about "Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and what to do" with this 15 minute online tutorial, **RevivR**. This is a fast, free and easy-to-use online tool from the British Heart Foundation. Go to [www.bhf.org.uk](http://www.bhf.org.uk) or the CGu3a web site under "Links" then "Other Useful Resources".

## QUIZ GROUP

The Quiz Group meet on the third Monday in the month at 2:00pm in the pavilion at Greenwood Park Community centre. Members play in teams of three or four depending how many members are present and everybody brings five questions with them. We start with 20 to 30 questions from the lead quizzier then have table rounds each person on the table giving their five question. At about 3:00pm we take a break (chocolate biscuits are provided!). We then continue until 4:00pm when each member of the winning team gets a small bar of chocolate as a prize.

Questions are sometimes on a theme but can be very eclectic. To demonstrate this, most of the members at the January meeting have suggested one question for a quiz to put in this newsletter.

*Mary McKerrow*

### QUIZ (Answers on the next page)

1. What do Winkie (a pigeon), Upstart (a horse) Rip (a terrier) and Simon (a cat) have in common?
2. Between 1961 and 1966 a talking horse had his own TV series. What was his name?
3. Which famous person had a horse called Copenhagen?
4. What is the cube root of 9261? (No calculators to be used!)
5. Which organ of the human body produces bile?
6. Which country has the most lakes?
7. The actress who played Hyacinth Bucket died in October 2025. What was her name?
8. Which famous novel has the last line "Reader I married him"?
9. Who is Dame Sarah Mullally?
10. Which letter can you add to a region in Italy to make the name of a county in England?
11. What do the initials NATO stand for?
12. In May 2025, Pope Leo XIV became the first American born Pope, in which US city was he born?

## SPEAKER'S CORNER

The speaker at March's meeting will be Fred Finn and the subject is

### "World's most travelled man"

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In April, the speaker will be Andrew Smith on the topic

### "Dogs and holidays"

## INTEREST GROUPS

### Refreshment Rota



Mar 5th	History
Apr 2nd	In our time
May 7th	Ladies points of view
Jun 4th	Local events/London Walks
Jul 6th	Needles & Pins

Cycling was the "show and tell" group at February's meeting. Aubrey Foddering had his electric bike on display while the other joint leader Bill Hamilton discussed the various routes and outings that have proved popular and which always include lunch at a country pub or restaurant. The rides take place on the first Monday of each month except Bank Holidays when they are moved forward to the second Monday. They vary in length but rarely more than 20 miles and wherever possible use only minor roads and cycling paths. A number of u3a members expressed an interest in getting their old bikes out of the shed and joining the group for the new season which runs from April to October.



**GARDEN VISIT GROUP**

It is some years since the Garden Visits Group travelled out to Bennington Lordship near Stevenage to view the snowdrops and having established that the rain had relented for a few hours, a sturdy group of 12 drove through the country lanes for a return visit.

Despite the raw wind there was no feeling of disappointment as the array of this beautiful flower were scattered often in large groups throughout the well designed garden and the sloping banks down to the lake. Also splendid were the occasional display of crocus and hellebores.

The plan for a sandwich in the pub was overridden by a visit to the warm on-site tea room serving a very good range of cakes to accompany the welcoming hot drinks.



**WINGS & WHEELS GROUP**

In January, nine of the Wings & Wheels Group had an interesting visit to the free National Army Museum near Chelsea Hospital in London. We met there for coffee and enjoyed looking round before and after lunch in the pleasant Museum's *The Café*. The Museum has a very varied collection, telling you about the history of the objects on display, some of which date back to the 16th Century. There were also good free exhibitions of Military Art in the age of Queen Victoria, the weapons, tools, trades, and campaigns of serving soldiers, and one commemorating the 80th Anniversary of Victory over Japan Day.



We all felt there was more to see when we had to leave for our journeys home and may be making a return visit sometime in the future.



**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

To be able to endure loneliness and enjoy it is a great gift.

*G Bernard Shaw*

**GOLDEN OLDIES**



**Answers to page one Quiz**

1. They all received the RSPCA Dickin medal for bravery.
2. Mr Ed
3. The Duke of Wellington
4. 21
5. The liver
6. Canada
7. Patricia Routledge
8. Jane Eyre
9. The newly elected Archbishop of Canterbury
10. The letter C which turns Umbria into Cumbria
11. North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
12. Chicago

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING TRIPS

Please remember to have with you or wear your CGu3a 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 can be made at our monthly meetings via Joy Dabson, Event Organiser, with payment by Bank Transfer (preferred option) or cheque.

**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 by Bank Transfer (preferred option) within **seven days**, or on the day they are booked with cheques made payable to **CGu3a Social Account**. Please ensure when writing cheques for Trips that you have filled it in EXACTLY correctly, and written your membership number on the reverse. If paying for more than one outing, please send separate Bank Transfers (preferred option) or separate cheques for each event. Cheques 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 via our website or email ([trips@chiswellgreenu3a.org.uk](mailto:trips@chiswellgreenu3a.org.uk)). All 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.**

### Wednesday 25th March 2026—BARNUM at AYLESBURY WATERSIDE THEATRE Waiting list

Step right up and enter the dazzling world of P.T. Barnum, where imagination and ambition know no bounds. Hand in hand with wife Charity, Barnum's life and career twists and turns as he schemes and dreams his way to headier heights. This spectacular new staging will feature an extraordinary ensemble cast of over 20 actor/musicians playing 150 instruments, acrobats and amazing circus acts.

Audiences are certain to delight at every sight, wonder and miracle that the name Barnum stands for! Come follow the band with the glorious music of multi-award winner Cy Coleman, Michael Stewart's lyrics and Mark Bramble's book. Barnum features a whole host of classic show tunes including *Join the Circus*, *Colours of My Life*, *Come Follow the Band*, and *Love Makes Such Fools of Us All*.

**"BARNUM"**  
at  
Waterside Theatre, Aylesbury

**Depart Greenwood Park: 12:00pm**

**Depart for home: approx 5.00pm**

**Cost: £53.00**

### Tuesday 28th April 2026—BEAULIEU Waiting list

#### AN INCLUSIVE TICKET TO GIVE ACCESS TO:-

**The National Motor Museum:** From the earliest motor carriages to classic family saloons, the world-famous National Motor Museum has one of the finest collections of cars, motorcycles and motoring memorabilia in the world. Latest attraction is "*We Had One Of Those*" showcasing some of the most popular cars from the 1960s through to the noughties and beyond.

**Palace House & Gardens:** Palace House, once the gatehouse of the medieval Beaulieu Abbey, has been the Montagu family home since 1538. In an idyllic New Forest setting, overlooking the picturesque Beaulieu River millpond, Palace House was remodelled and extended during the 1800s and is now a fine example of a Victorian country house. Inside, its ecclesiastical heritage sets the grand gothic tone for a home bristling with character and adorned with family treasures, portraits, and memorabilia.

**Beaulieu Abbey:** This 800 year old Abbey was founded by King John in the 13th century before being destroyed on the orders of King Henry VIII in 1538. Owing to the efforts of the Montagu family ancestors, distant relations of these former kings, the now tranquil Abbey is a conserved ruin where visitors have enjoyed its peaceful setting and appreciated the achievements of its medieval builders.

**The Secret Army Exhibition:** Uncover Beaulieu's history as a top secret training establishment for special agents of the Special Operations Executive (SOE) during World War Two.

Enjoy the Beaulieu grounds on the aerial "*Skytrain*" or via the open top veteran bus.

**NOTE:** the coach journey is approximately **two hours**.

**Depart Greenwood Park: 9:30am**

**Depart for home: approx 4:30pm**

**Cost: £40.00**

**Saturday 9th May 2026—JACK & SARAH at THE MILL AT SONNING**

Waiting list

**Bookings open to family and friends**

Based on the 1995 film starring Richard E Grant and Dame Judi Dench. Jack, a workaholic lawyer, is suddenly left to raise his baby daughter alone. Enter Amy, a free-spirited au-pair. Against all the odds, and with a little help from an eccentric cast of family and friends, their different worlds collide in a surprising and life affirming way.

The Mill at Sonning is a professional restaurant and theatre venue. The theatre is fully air-conditioned, situated on the River Thames at Sonning Eye. The Mill on this site was mentioned in the Domesday Book, and during the 18<sup>th</sup> century milled flour for Huntley and Palmers biscuits based in Reading. The waterwheel can still be seen turning in the bar. This is a delightful venue which we have been lucky enough to enjoy many times.

Price includes two course waitress served meal, chosen on the day with a vegetarian option, and tea or coffee after; centre block seats with several "end of rows"; coach and driver's tip.

**"JACK & SARAH"**

at

**The Mill at Sonning**

**Depart Greenwood Park: 10:30am**

**Depart for home: approx 5:00pm**

**Cost: £83.00**

**Wednesday 1st July 2026—THAMES RIVER CRUISE**

Waiting list

A three hour cruise on board the Caversham Lady through the scenic "*Wind in the Willows*" country which offers a relaxing journey along the picturesque Caversham and Mapledurham reaches of the River Thames. Guests enjoy a Cornish clotted Cream Tea while passing iconic spots like Reading's three bridges, riverside homes, parklands, and the tranquil meanders of the river. The cruise continues, turning at Mapledurham lock & weir, where Mapledurham House, thought to have inspired Toad's home in *Wind in the Willows*, is nestled. The area is renowned for its stunning scenery and serene atmosphere, making it a delightful experience for nature lovers.

The Caversham Lady is a single deck vessel, which has excellent all round visibility and has easy access with a large open foredeck. The Cream Tea includes home made plain and fruit scones, Cornish clotted cream, jam and tea/coffee, served at lunch time. Bar available – **NOTE:** card only.

Please notify Joy if you have any dietary issues when booking.

**Depart Greenwood Park: 10:00am**

**Depart for home: approx 3:30pm**

**Cost: £51.00**

**Thursday 27th August 2026—W&H PEACOCKS AUTIONEERS**

Selling: April 2026

**Auction Insight Evening**

The return of one of our favourites. This visit has proved very popular in the past, with much laughter - just what we need.

On arrival we will be welcomed with a glass of wine or juice, and the visit will begin with a short introduction to W&H Peacock and its history.

We will then be invited downstairs - there is a lift - to take part in a light hearted valuation competition. Another chance to see how good you are before we go back upstairs for a light supper and discussion.

Please tell Joy if you are gluten-free when booking.

**Please note: This is an evening trip.**

**Depart Greenwood Park: 5.00pm**

**Depart for home: approx 9.00pm**

**Cost: £33.00**



**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.**

*... and finally*

It's paradoxical that the idea of living a long life appeals to everyone, but the idea of getting old doesn't appeal to anyone.

Andy Rooney