

The Digest



Edition 124
Summer 2025

u3a
Dacorum

35th
Anniversary
Edition

Industrial History Group Visiting the Abbey Pumping Station

u3a Dacorum Digest

To become a member, join u3a Dacorum or renew your membership:


Online: Use this link to access renewing or joining instructions or scan the QR codes opposite:

https://u3adacorum.org/?page_id=7925

By post: Request a membership form to be sent by post from the Membership Secretary (details on last page).



Calligraphy Group on the subject of "Back"

 **u3a Dacorum is supported by Dacorum Borough Council**
PRESIDENT: The Mayor of the Borough of Dacorum
Registered Charity 1012612.

Contents

Notices	2, 3
AGM announcement, Trustee and Committee Reports	4
Monthly meetings	8
Member Contributions	10
Looking back thirty-five years	18
Member Contributions continued	20
Group listings	30
u3a Dacorum committee and contact details	34
Photography	Back Cover

Future Committee Meeting Dates

Tuesday 1 July	Tuesday 7 October
Tuesday 29 July	Tuesday 4 November
Tuesday 2 September	Tuesday 2 December

Venue: Boxmoor Trust Centre, London Road, Hemel Hempstead.
 Members are always welcome to attend either in person or on Zoom. Please let the Secretary know in advance.

The Digest is published quarterly in March, June, September and December

Publisher: u3a Dacorum
 email: secretary@u3adacorum.org

Editor: John Dodkins
 email: editor@u3adacorum.org

Printers: The Print Centre, Unit C, Northbridge Road, Berkhamsted <https://tpc-print.co.uk/index.html>

u3a Dacorum

Web Site	Membership
	

From the Trustees

Annual General Meeting Monday 4th August 2025

at 10.30 am

Boxmoor Playhouse

72 St John's Road

Hemel Hempstead, HP1 1NP

Nominations for Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary or trustee or any proposals for the AGM should be submitted by **Saturday 28th June**. The forms are included in this Digest and are also available from the AGM page on u3adacorum.org [News tab]. Voting will be on-line with links sent to members with an e-mail address and paper copies posted to those without.

Chair's Report

Welcome to the latest edition of the Digest where, as well as showcasing all our exciting range of activities, you can read about the history of our u3a as we mark our 35th Anniversary.

To find out more about u3a Dacorum I have been reading through our archive of past copies of the Digest and, as well as seeing the wide range of interests that have been covered over the years, one theme that keeps recurring is a plea for more help with running our organisation. Back in 1994, the Chairman said 'we need more helpers. I want to see even greater involvement of our members in the running of our u3a. This is your u3a and it will become what you make it, by the sum of all your efforts.' Followed in 1997 by a reminder that 'our u3a will not run itself; the u3a is built on the principle of self-help.'

The good news is that these requests must have worked, and volunteers did come forward, as our u3a has kept running and has become bigger and more successful over the years. So now it is our turn, we must not be the cohort that lets the side down, so please would you consider whether you would like to join our committee. Whatever your area of expertise, everyone has different skills that can be put to good use in helping to run our organisation. As you will see elsewhere in this Digest, at present we are looking for a new Secretary, an important job, but one that could be shared so no one needs to feel the task is too onerous. Being part of the team that keeps our u3a running is an enjoyable experience, so please consider if you can help in any capacity. If you are interested, please contact myself or any of the committee for further information and a nomination form is included with this Digest.

Best wishes for an enjoyable summer.

Carolyn Wallis

Treasurer's Report

As I write this article, I have just finished sending the draft accounts and related papers to the independent examiner for her to do her thing checking them. It has been an "interesting" few weeks as this was my first time producing the accounts, and also making sure that I had everything needed to show how I had got those figures. Here's hoping that no significant issues come up during the examination! Many thanks to the Group Coordinators who sent in their group forms in good time to help me compiling the accounts.

The draft accounts show a small surplus for the year. This would have been a small deficit but for a number of one-off items, primarily money received relating to previous years. We had budgeted a larger deficit in the year as part of our plans to reduce reserves down to the target level, as explained previously. I think one of the reasons for this difference was that as a committee we were probably more prudent in avoiding spending any more money than we had to. This means that we should be able to avoid increasing membership subs and other charges for longer.

As this year is our 35th Anniversary, there are some funds in the budget for this year to help celebrate this. You can read more about these plans elsewhere in the Digest.

Henry Wallis

Secretary's Report

This will be my final report as Secretary, as by September I hope there will be new Secretary in post. By the AGM in August, I will have completed three years as Secretary and must stand down, as required by our Constitution. I hope to continue as a trustee, after the AGM. Elsewhere you will find the notice of the AGM and enclosed with the Digest the nomination and proposal forms.

At the time of writing this we do not have anyone lined up to be my successor. If you are organised, and comfortable using IT to circulate information and maintain the necessary records in our archive, then please consider coming forward. The post could be shared between a couple of people. The Secretary is supported by the two people sharing the role of Minutes Secretary. I have also put together a pack of useful information for the Secretary on how to do what they need to do. I have enjoyed working with the Committee members, who are a friendly and welcoming team. If you are interested, please speak to me or Carolyn Wallis.

In recent meetings the Committee has approved our Safeguarding protocol and considered plans to mark our 35th anniversary.

Ellen Duffy, secretary@u3adacorum.org

Vice Chair's Report

Having spent rather longer than I should enjoying the sunshine I find myself with a deadline looming large.

My role as Vice Chair is varied and enjoyable, perhaps most satisfying is meeting the members of the groups who serve our refreshments at the monthly meetings. I have learnt a great deal about the subjects that are shared within our groups and have been able to put faces to the names of the coordinators who work hard in organising the groups and entertain us with their contributions to the Digest. Thank you everyone who has helped over the past months and for those of you yet to enjoy the experience please be patient – your turn will come.

The committee are planning a number of events for our 35th birthday celebration this year and will be asking for contributions from time to time. At this point I must remind everyone that we will be looking for nominations for more Trustees, the form is in your copy of the Digest. We meet monthly and share out the tasks needed to keep your U3A running so if you might have a few hours a month to join us please talk to one of us at the monthly meeting or contact us by email.

As you will have heard often and read elsewhere in the Digest we urgently need a Secretary as our officers must stand down after 3 years. Again if you think you might have something to offer please talk to us. This is really urgent, you could be the person to enable us to function within the requirements of the Charity Commission.

I hope that the good weather continues for all the groups who enjoy trips during the summer and look forward to reading their news in our next edition.

Refreshment Rota

7 July	Boxmoor	Jazz Appreciation
4 August	Boxmoor	Sewing Bee
1 September	Northchurch	Industrial History
6 October	Boxmoor	Cycling

Jane Campbell

Membership Secretary's Report

Our membership remains in the region of 1200 and over 60 new members have joined since 1 January.

Members who have forgotten to renew or have had a break will be welcomed back wholeheartedly so if you know of anyone who would like to join or re-join, please direct them to the website: www.u3adacorum.org

or email members@u3adacorum.org

Jean Sniders, Membership Secretary

Riviera Travel and HX Hurtigruten Expeditions

Are you planning your next holiday and considering one of these travel companies? If so, did you know that your booking can benefit your u3a and, in the case of Hurtigruten you can earn a 5% discount through the u3a?

Riviera Travel are a tour operator and river cruise company who will donate 10% of the cost of your holiday to our parent organisation, The Third Age Trust, who in turn will pass on 90% of the donation to your local u3a. Last year we received nearly £100 by this process – can we earn more this year for the benefit of our members?

If you wish to participate, you first need to book your holiday directly with Riviera. If you book by phone, then advise the Riviera representative that you wish to participate in the Affinity Scheme in respect of u3a Dacorum. They will link your booking to the scheme. However, if you book on the internet, you should email affinity@rivieratravel.co.uk or call 01283 523 470 within 24 hours providing your name, booking ref, departure date and stating you're in Dacorum u3a. When you return from your holiday the money will be transferred to our u3a.

HX Hurtigruten are an expedition cruise company and if you want to take advantage of their 5% discount offer see the u3a web site:

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/news/our-partners> for further information.

Carolyn Wallis

It can only be one place

Take a muddy estuary, sprinkled liberally with railway lines.

Toss lightly in a brisk easterly wind.

Gradually add a selection of shops and amusement arcades

Slowly pour in several train loads of day trippers

Whisk up a selection of visitors using rotating fairground rides

Stir in a mixture of fish and chips, jellied eels and ice cream

Cook at a warm summer temperature until the visitors are red

Soak the whole in several varieties of lager

Leave to simmer for several hours.

When obviously boiling over add the local constabulary

Scoop into manageable portions

Chill overnight in police cells.

Jane Campbell

Where? See page 35...

Monthly Meetings

2 July 2025: Boxmoor Playhouse

Tony Tutton: Buddy Holly

Tony was born in Walthamstow in 1947 (a “Baby Boomer”). He gave his first performance on stage at the age of six for Queen Elizabeth II Coronation concert. He joined a skiffle group at the age of 10 and has continued to perform as a drummer, guitarist, and lead singer. In 2023 Tony performed at a street party to celebrate King Charles III Coronation, this celebrated his 70 years in the music business!

Tony will take you on a journey through the life of the legendary Buddy Holly from his birthplace in Lubbock Texas in 1936 to his untimely death in 1958. Tony’s Talk features many of Buddy smash hits, That’ll be the day, Oh Boy, Peggy Sue, Rave on, Heartbeat ...and lots more. You will also hear songs from many artists that influenced Buddy such as Hank Williams, Johnny Cash, Elvis, Carl Perkins, Jerry Lee Lewis, Bill Haley & His Comets. You will learn about the stories behind the songs and from many well-known performers that were influenced by his music such as The Rolling Stones, The Beatles, Bob Dylan, Bobby Vee, Brian May, Linda Ronstadt etc. The talk is a visual and audio feast of music & song that you are invited to join in and sing along to.

4 August 2025: Boxmoor Playhouse, NB: The AGM will be held at this meeting
Judith Karbritz: Inside the Victorian Pantry

Judy Karbritz is Harrow’s Community Poet and writes regular columns for the Harrow Times and Barnet Borough Times. She has broadcast on LBC and local BBC radio and performed in amateur dramatics. She has been giving entertaining talks for fifteen years and performs locally and regularly speaks on cruise ships. Judy is an established and popular speaker for the Women’s Institutes, U3A, Probus and Rotary clubs. Her talks are fun, light-hearted, informative and hugely enjoyable.

In 2024, Judith entertained us with a peek behind some of the best loved movies of all time. She featured secrets revealed about the making of Wizard of Oz, Gone With The Wind, Singin’ in the Rain, The Sound of Music and many other favourites. Now she goes behind the scenes in our own homes. From the pantry to the toybox, the high street to the tuck box, hear how the Victorians would have known many of today’s products. Learn why Marmite and Bisto are so named and enjoy again a few well-loved adverts.

1 Sep 2025: Northchurch Social Centre Berkhamsted (NB: Venue)

Thirty-five year anniversary celebration with cake and “Bring a Buddy”



Continued on page 9...

...continued from page 8

1 Sep 2025: Northchurch Social Centre Berkhamsted (NB: Venue)

John Tyler: The Changing Wildlife of the Chilterns

John Tyler has worked in nature conservation for over thirty years, first with the Ecological Parks Trust creating urban nature reserves for children to experience wildlife at first hand. Then he became the Warden of the Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve in Kent, 135 acres of wetland and woodland where he created and managed habitats and guided schools and adult groups around the reserve. John has a particular fondness for Glow-worms. As well as wildlife, his interests include photography, prehistory, carving and coracles.

In 2023 John fascinated us with his spectacular photographs of the crabs and other animals on Christmas Island. This year he takes us closer to home and explores The Changing Wildlife of the Chilterns. From warm seas, through Ice Ages, tundra and forest to the farmland and beechwoods of today, we travel through a hundred million years to follow the story of the Chiltern landscape and its wildlife.

6 October 2025: Boxmoor Playhouse

Chris Gruber: Super Sniffers. An Introduction to Medical Detection Dogs

Medical Detection Dogs are super sniffers, using their incredible sense of smell to save lives each and every day. Bio detection dogs use their nose to find illnesses such as cancer, Parkinson’s disease, malaria, and even Covid-19! These wonderful dogs are working to diagnose disease much earlier, through less invasive and less expensive methods.

Medical Alert Assistance Dogs support individuals with complex health conditions who have limited awareness of an impending life-threatening medical event. Using their amazing sense of smell, these dogs can be trained to identify minute odour changes emitted prior to an emergency and alert the person to take preventative action.

3 November 2025: Boxmoor Playhouse

Lucy Allen: Black Cats, Broomsticks & Bellatrix: Who were the Witches?

Lucy Allen is a Stunt Woman and Public Speaker. She has been giving talks about her life as a Stuntwoman for 14 years and has developed other talks along the way. Being a professional performer means she likes to add a bit of drama and excitement into her talks and keep them as lively and interesting as possible. She really enjoys meeting and talking to all manner of groups.

Where did ‘The Witch’ come from? What happened in the European Witch Hunts? What is it like ‘Playing the Witch’? Stunt performer Lucy Allen, Bellatrix Stunt Double in the Harry Potter films, attempts to answer these questions and more with an overview of the history of the Witch hunts plus some drama thrown in to spice up this spell!

Louise (Lee) Pace

Member Contributions

Photography Club 151

Our group enjoy looking at members own images, each month is based on a theme or topic. Can you guess the topic of our last meeting (see back cover)?

Part of our session is devoted to improving our skills behind the camera (or mobile phone) and in the editing of our images afterwards. Next month we will have a jolly and go out to a venue to capture images and then compare our best shots the following month.

If you have an interest in good images then do come along.

John & Terry

Discussion Group B No 090

We still meet at The Sacred Heart Hall, Berkhamsted and our numbers have increased gently in the past 12 months or so. We continue to tackle some controversial subjects such as the value of our Royal Family, assisted dying, immigration, recent developments in education, Navalny, the consequences of a declining population, traffic menaces such as e-scooters, and even the JFK assassination.

We all come at the topics with different opinions, but I am pleased to say that we “disagree agreeably”; there is no consensus and we do not fall out with one another.

Whilst the group numbers are sufficient at present, I am going to start a waiting list; consequently, if you are interested in joining in the future, please contact me on: 01442 262074 or email me on group090@u3adacorum.org

Tim Thompson

Exploring Towns and Villages: Our April Outing

We began by meeting in Wheathampstead, where we looked at the interesting features including the train that goes nowhere with third class passengers in the cattle truck. (See page 22)

We then drove to Ayot St Lawrence where we stopped for lunch at a very busy Brocket Arms. Fortunately the weather was great so we whiled away the time seated in the large garden. There were tortoises and caged birds to admire plus a couple of our recycled boys had a go on the slide!

Lastly, most of us crossed over to Shaw's Corner to admire George Bernard Shaw's house and garden. The “boys” were trying to work out how to get in the revolving shed!

Our group is full at the moment, but if anyone is keen to set up a second group they are welcome to contact me for ideas.

Laura Rouse, group197@u3adacorum.org

Driving Licence Scam

I was renewing my 70+ driving licence online, quite complicated as are most forms, need passport number etc. Without my pressing any key for help I was entered into a website AssistOnline. On completion, I was billed for £78 for their assistance.

Their reply to my email of disgust: *On our website we have posted disclaimer “We are in no way affiliated with the UK Government. We are a third party agency which charges a fee for its services”*

So I have no leg to stand on!

Please tell everybody to beware.

Barbara Markovic

Classical Music Appreciation [Group 035]

Our summer term continues with an interesting and varied selection of subjects, as follows:

June 12	Jack Scrutton	Music for a summer's day.
June 26	James Robertson	A video of Royal Ballet classics, ...featuring Margot Fonteyn among other greats.
July 10	Sheila Cosford	Even more musical birthdays.
July 24	Sue Frost	Brahms masterpieces.
August 7	Robert Hoare	The magic of Ravel.

We meet at 10am until 12 noon in St Francis Church Hall, Glenview Road, Hemel HP1 1TD. The fee is £2 plus 30p for coffee/tea and biscuits in the interval. All are welcome to join our friendly group, just turn up.

Jack Scrutton

Music Miscellany 089

We are enjoying another good year with amazing presentations from new and established presenters. James' *Misguided tour of Hemel Hempstead* was so enlightening revealing hidden depths in the town geographically as well as providing unexpected, sometimes weird, musical suggestions. All of our presentations have been equally inspiring and well received. Much more uplifting music to look forward to as the year rolls on:

July 3	Another of Mike's historical outings.
July 31	<i>Inter alia</i> , Lesley's miscellany
August 28	A tribute to our founder Derek from the large CD collection of all genres that he left us.
September 25	A new member and presenter: Gary
October 23	A Guitar Jamboree with John <i>Bob Day</i>

Maths and Puzzles Group

We meet for 2 hours each month and divide our time into roughly 20-30 minute sessions. A few presentations from the front, and as much group participation and problem-solving as possible. Sample topics include:

- 7 Bridges of Konigsberg, giving a flavour of graph theory
- Bell ringing methods, and a glimpse into group theory
- Prisoners Dilemma, opening the door to Game Theory
- Prime numbers and number theory basics
- The Talmudic Three Widows Problem (a way to divide their dead husband's estate)
- ...And so on.

For team problems we've found that NRICH challenges and the Stanford Mathematics Problem Book hit the spot. Requiring just basic algebra, number, geometry, and best of all, that very satisfying flash of insight.

Members of the group are encouraged to lead sessions if they're willing, but it's fine if not. No one wants to monopolise the PowerPoint and whiteboard, and several are happy to take the lead. Numbers drop as members decide it's not for them, numbers have stabilised around 10 more or less regulars.

We add Play, and it helps....

We find there's something appealing about experiments and making discoveries, and it enlivens the group. Members have led us through:

- Coin tossing – the binomial distribution magically emerges
- Tessellations – which shapes can we tile the table with?
- Tower of Hanoi – how many moves to move the tower from one peg to the other?
- Buffon's Needle – a way to estimate pi by dropping sticks on ruled paper.
- ...etc.

Light-hearted quizzes also go down well.

Numberphile videos are good, but we try to use them very sparingly – a slippery slope to watching not doing.

Keith Holmes: group361@u3adacorum.org



Tower of Hanoi

Table Tennis

The u3a Table tennis group B, which plays at Adeyfield Community Centre on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoons of the month will be hosting another "Fun Tournament", following the success of last year's event, on July 9th.

The tournament is only open to existing members of both this and Table tennis group A (which plays on weeks 1 and 3). The format is (randomly allocated) primarily mixed doubles pairs playing a round-robin section with the top 2 pairs progressing to a further round-robin section. Final winners and runners-up are decided on points scored.

Please come along and express your interest in taking part. Final arrangements and the tournament draw will be announced during June. Any queries please contact Christine Beasley (See group list for details)

Christine Beasley

Folk Singing and Ukulele Groups



The Heather Club of Hemel Hempstead received The King's Award for Voluntary Service



The King's Award for Voluntary Service

The MBE for volunteer groups

On May 6th representatives from both the u3a Folk Singing and the u3a Ukulele groups were among about 50 invited guests at this ceremony which included a splendid afternoon tea, prepared by the volunteers, accompanied by sparkling champagne (non alcoholic of course). The presentation of this very prestigious award was by the Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire, Robert Voss, who was duly presented in return with a beautiful bouquet of heather!

The Heather Club is a day care centre for those suffering from memory loss and early dementia. They provide a two course lunch, a range of activities, and entertainment for their members. Both the folk singers and the ukulele group (Ukerythmics) perform regular 'gigs' at the club as part of the members' live afternoon entertainment.

The whole event was rounded off by the Ukerythmics in full swing, performing a range of their favourite songs, with many of the audience on their feet dancing and cheering! An altogether wonderful and heart warming occasion.

Rachel Barlow, Folk Singing and Ukulele

Armchair Traveller

In February we cruised the Adriatic with Brian and Jean Leary aboard the Minerva, starting in Dubrovnik, Croatia and finishing in Kotor, Montenegro. We made visits to a further ten locations, with several main highlights. The first being Pula, Croatia which is known for its multitude of ancient Roman buildings. The most famous of which is the Pula Arena, one of the best-preserved Roman amphitheatres. Then on to Sibenik, Croatia for a trip to the Krka National Park with its waterfalls. Next was Split with its impressive waterfront followed by a coach trip to the Plitvice lakes for a boat trip and a very interesting walk.

The next point of interest was Ravenna in Italy to visit Pomposa Abbey with its lovely frescos. Our last notable destination was Venice where we visited St Mark's Square, the canals, villas Cornaro and Emo outside Venice, and the Venetian lagoon islands of Murano, Burano, Torcello, and San Michele, the cemetery island,

Sheila and John Cosford took us to Switzerland, off the beaten track, in March. We walked the man-made watercourses of the Valais in all seasons. The watercourses have been in operation since the 11th century and provide valuable water for irrigation in the higher levels of the valleys in the region. There are several hundred walks along these watercourses and their distance ranges from just over a kilometre to 25 or more kilometres. During their presentation Sheila and John took us along several of these walks both in summer and winter where we were shown some incredible views.

We travelled to the Emerald Isle in April with road trip around the coast of Cork and Kerry. We crossed the Irish sea from Fishguard to Rosslare and visited Waterford with its crystal factory, Cork City and Cobh with its emigration and Titanic history, Bantry Bay and Mizen Head, and finally Kinsale a very picturesque town near Cork.

Then on to Kerry and Dingle with its peninsular and a spectacular 14-mile drive along the coast. Next a short trip to Killarney and the Lakes then on to the River Shannon with its Flying Boat Museum. Finally, a stay in Limerick City on the Shannon with a trip to the Cliffs of Moha for some more incredible views.

Future presentations will include; Corfu, a gem in the Adriatic, the Scandinavian capitals, by plane, boat and train, and Japan.

John Clarke

"Two roads diverged in a wood, and I – I took the one less travelled" Robert Frost

Local History

Over recent months the group has been exploring the history of the High Street, looking at people and places associated with this important street and the surrounding area. We have discovered the names and for almost all of them the location, of over twenty public houses. Only four of these remain open today.

On a topical note the photograph depicts, in the foreground, a house that was formerly a greengrocers shop owned by James Bolino, an ancestor of a person in the group. James Bolino was the organiser of the original street party for VE Day in 1945, which was held in Half Moon Yard.

If you would like to discover more about the history of Dacorum then you are most welcome to join us. We have monthly hall meetings and in between these, short walks and visits to places of interest in the area that we are exploring. The Summer Term will see the group continue to look at people and places mainly in the Aldbury area.

Bernard Lamb



Backgammon

I have been running the Backgammon group for 9 months and so far it has been very successful with an average of 12 players turning up each month

The first hour is spent with me pairing players to play each other and I go around seeing how they are getting on and advising them on how they could and should play their moves.

The second hour is taken up with me playing against everyone there, which the photos attached illustrate. I then ask the group what they collectively think are the right moves for them and also for me and then advise on what I would play.

The Group collectively are very friendly and willing to learn and I've noticed how some have become more confident and seen the improvement in the way they play this pretty difficult game.

Nick Ray, group364@u3adacorum.org



Exploring London Group

In March Hilary led us in and around fashionable and affluent Belgravia, known for its grand stucco houses, upscale boutiques, and garden squares, conceived and built by the Grosvenor family who still own large areas of London including the former site of the USA embassy. Apparently in the 1950s the US government asked if they could purchase the freehold of the Square from the Grosvenor family whose trustees “indicated that it would be possible to buy the freehold on one condition; namely that the lands confiscated at the end of the American War of Independence be returned to the Grosvenor family. The Ambassador decided not to push ahead with buying the freehold”.



With Mozart's statue in Orange Square

In April Bernard Lamb took us around Primrose Hill and Camden where we encountered Amy Winehouse, admired the interior of Cecil Sharp House and mixed with writers and poets.



In Chalcot Square Gardens

Tony Ford revisits Railway Lands in May and in June Sue Miller takes us back to Rotherhithe. Planned for July is a stroll around Hampstead with John Clarke and in August it's West Brompton (hopefully including the famous cemetery) with Tony Ford. Details of each walk are emailed to all members in the middle of the preceding month including how to apply.

Sue Miller

Bus Trippers

We have visited a range of venues in the last three months.

In March we we travelled to RAF Halton and the Trenchard museum. Needless to say we had bus problems, this time the X5 was dead in Marlowes and the next ones 30 minutes late but we eventually arrived and had a fascinating time in the museum. An interesting introduction from one of the volunteers then time to explore all the exhibits, to sit in a jet plane and to try our hand on a flight simulator. Certainly a great place to take some of the grandchildren when time allows

April saw us travelling on the 721 to St Albans, this was on time and gave us time for a coffee break before boarding a very overcrowded bus to Hertford. We had a short riverside walk from the bus station to the Museum to see an exhibition about the life of Barbara Cartland. It is such an amazing life story and many of her book covers, possessions and dresses were on display which gave further insight into her work.

Our trip to the Bank of England Museum began with a train into Euston then a 205 to the Angel Islington and a 43 to Gracechurch Street for a break in The Cross Keys (a beautiful old bank refurbished by Wetherspoons). We walked up to Threadneedle Street and into the museum where we found exhibition of hats and hat making as well as the history of the bank. Of course we all tried to lift the gold bar and concluded that even if we could remove it from the glass case it was too heavy to carry home.



“It's not gold, it's chocolate”

Much to the amusement of the group, when I paid for my purchases the shop in cash, one of the coins was from Singapore. I don't think that I will be allowed to forget the day I tried to pass a foreign coin in the Bank of England!

We returned via Holborn on the 8 and the 68 and arrived in Euston in perfect time for a train. I feel that is important to record the day that the trains and bus ran on time for us.

We hope to visit some outdoor venues in the summer, weather permitting, but always have a plan B for those unexpected showers.

Jane Campbell



Looking Back over 35 years of u3a Dacorum

Our u3a began with an initiative from Dacorum Borough Council in April 1990 when a meeting was held in the Civic Centre in Hemel Hempstead, chaired by the Mayor. This was just eight years after the u3a movement was introduced to this country at a conference in Cambridge. About 60 people attended the initial meeting and a steering group was organised. It was agreed to hold a meeting on the first Monday of each month with a speaker and the annual subscription was to be £1.50, raised to £3 in 1991. The first members meeting took place in September 1990 at St John's Hall (now the Boxmoor Playhouse) and by December 1990 there were 90 members. It is lovely to hear that we still have three current members who joined in that first year.

Groups

The first groups set up in 1990 are still an important part of our calendar – Literature, Music, Calligraphy, Painting and Local History. They were soon joined by groups for Needlecraft, Geology, Creative Writing and French Conversation. By late 1991, there were 138 members, and the number of groups was up to 11, with Gardening, Theatre visits and Industrial History added to the mix and groups opening in Tring and Berkhamsted. As the number of groups continued to grow the sciences, apart from geology, were less represented until the arrival of Astronomy and Botany in 1995 and Science & Technology the following year. The range of groups grew steadily as our membership expanded, peaking at 120 before Covid struck in 2020.

Looking back at old copies of the Digest it is interesting to read about groups we have lost over the years – Belly Dancing ran for several years from 1995, Understanding the European Union, Golf, Snooker, Food & Nutrition, Life Story, Woodcarving, World Religions, Model Making, Greek Drama and Belle Plates (a type of handbell) were all successful groups for a number of years. We still have the set of Belle Plates, so if anyone would be interested in restarting this group or any of the others mentioned, please get in touch.

Trips

From the early days our u3a members have been out and about on holidays and day trips. One particularly successful venture was the Away a Day educational day trips run every month by Joyce Osborn from 1997 to 2016. They travelled the country visiting cathedrals, museums, stately homes and other interesting and unusual destinations. In later years these were complemented by another successful programme of Short Day Trips which ran from 2014 until 2023, while the Theatre trips group ran a regular programme of outings from 1991 until 2017. Any of these initiatives could be restarted if we can find a willing volunteer...

Monthly meetings

Speaker meetings have continued to be held every month, apart from the interrup-

tion due to Covid, with refreshments organised by groups on a rota basis since 1993 to ensure the workload is shared by all. The first few meetings were held at the Friends Meeting House in Hemel Old Town until membership numbers outgrew that venue and meetings moved to the Boxmoor Playhouse. By 1997, the membership had grown to over 500 and the meetings were so popular that the Playhouse was not big enough, so, with help of a grant from Dacorum Borough Council, the monthly meetings were moved to the Pavilion, with two meetings a year held in Tring (until 2004) and two in Berkhamsted. Sadly, the Pavilion was closed in 2002 and meetings had to move back to our now familiar surroundings in Boxmoor.



Communications

The first issue of the Digest was produced in June 1993; before that members had received an A4 sized newsletter three times a year. The new A5 Digest introduced puzzles and cookery tips as well as reports from all the groups. By 1996 the world was moving into the digital age, and the Digest was produced on computer for the first time and in Spring 1997 we had our own u3a Dacorum page on the internet – although internet connection was still by telephone line in those days. Our website was first developed in 2001 and has gone through many improvements since.

Up until 1997, the Digest had been distributed by hand by a team of volunteers, but with membership approaching 500 this was no longer possible, and the June 1997 magazine was sent out by post. Although this still needed a team of volunteers for putting in envelopes, addressing and stamping! Thankfully technology now arranges the distribution of our current issues.

At first, communications to members in between the quarterly Digests was by notices at monthly meetings, but with only a proportion of members attending the meetings, in 2001, a new initiative began with sending out information by email. At first there were only 40 members out of 900 who had email, but this gradually increased and developed into our very successful system of Group News emails.

Volunteers

Following the u3a principle of an organisation run by the members for its members, we are very grateful to all the members who have volunteered in many capacities, including group leaders and committee members, over the last 35 years to enable our u3a to continue so successfully. We owe particular thanks to our two longest serving committee members who have been part of the committee since 1997. Judy Baldwin has served as both Secretary and Membership Secretary and now takes care of our u3a photocopying. Alan Osborn was the Group Liaison officer from 1998 until 2021 and encouraged the creation of many new groups; he now continues to send out Group News, publicising our events, on an almost daily basis.



Continued on page 20...

...continued from page 19

Celebrations

Our 10th anniversary in 2000 was marked by the production of a booklet recounting the history of the first ten years, as well as an exhibition showcasing all the interest groups held at the Pavilion. By this time there were over 700 members with over 50 groups.

In 2010, the 20th anniversary, there were 1330 members and over 100 groups. At the monthly meeting in September that year a special award was presented to Sally Ryan, the Dacorum Borough Council officer who organised the first meeting to set up our u3a. Four members of the original committee were also present.

There were plans being drawn up to celebrate the 30th anniversary in 2020, but unfortunately Covid put an end to that.

In addition to the events marking specific anniversaries, u3a members have enjoyed a range of social events open to all members over the years, including Christmas celebrations, Garden Parties, Quiz nights and Barn Dances. Again, if any members would like to help to arrange similar events in the future, please get in touch.

Future events – help needed

We have several events planned in the next few months to showcase and publicise our u3a. We have stalls booked at two local fetes – Leverstock Green on 12th July and Box Moor Trust on 21st September. We have also arranged with the Marlowes shopping centre to have a whole shop window display devoted to our u3a; we are planning to put the display up during August. For all these events, we will need items and photographs to display the work of all our interest groups – please start thinking what your group could donate to a display and get in touch if you can spare the time to help on any of these occasions.

Thank you

Thank you to Gwen Scott (member since 1991), Alan Osborn, Judy Baldwin and Laura Rouse (Vice-Chair 2017-20) for their recollections which helped in preparing this article.

Carolyn Wallis

Italian Step 2

We continue to enjoy ourselves doing our best to improve fluency.

A textbook is helping us along at the moment, but with or without it, we're constantly revising Italian language structures and trying hard to increase vocabulary knowledge.

It's all quite low key and good fun.

(As we're a large group currently, unfortunately there's not enough room for extra members.)

Tina Leach and Val Broadhurst



Garden Visiting

The Garden Visiting group has been to several fascinating places this spring, including two not open to the public. In both cases, a member of the group had an inside connection, and we were treated to a personal tour. The first was the garden of a large residence built in 1911, the grounds having been laid out by Sir Edwin Lutyens and Gertrude Jekyll. Long gone are the actual plantings, but the layout of borders, huge yew hedges and magnificent trees was still much in evidence.



The second was a 7-acre plot, originally a nursery, which still retains some of the original trees, and to which has been added over the decades an orchard in which sheep graze, plus groves of other specimen trees, shrubs and plants added by the current owner. Here too was a wild swimming pond feeding into a pond for wildlife. Nearby, the owner had set up tables and chairs, and we enjoyed tea and cake in a magical setting on a perfect late spring day.

Lin Phillips

Garden Trips and Tours

The group met at a members house in February to plan this years outings. So far this year we have visited three gardens and enjoyed lunch at local pubs afterwards!

In March we visited Cheslyn Gardens in Watford. These public gardens are open all year. There is a lovely pond and rock garden, lawns and woodland. It was good to see the magnolias and camellias. In April we visited 'Morning Light' in Loudwater. Their south facing garden was planted with many perennials and shrubs. The owner was pleased to show us his prize winning daffodils. In May we went to Chesham Bois House. This is a large garden with lovely herbaceous borders, a rill with small ornamental canal, and a wildlife pond with lots of trees. The lawns looked in far better condition than my own!



The group is full at the moment but I do have a waiting list.

Sue Croucher



Nature Study at Studham Common where they spotted a Muntjack deer



Industrial History: Abbey Pumping Station Transport Museum



Industrial History admiring the Victorian Abbey Pumping Station



Exploring Towns and Villages: Train that goes nowhere



Walking Group with the Gruffalo in Wendover Woods



Bus Trippers flying at the Trenchard Museum

Results of a survey taken at the May Monthly Meeting...

What do you enjoy about being a u3a member?
 I do enjoy the monthly talks, they are very interesting and excellent quality speakers

Making and keeping new friends and keeping active
 Sociable groups to attend on many topics
 Going to a variety of activities without academic or physical constraints - ie no exams or sport standards

The opportunities to exercise, learn and a little bit of a challenge. I enjoy the walking group, the nature walks are a delight and dingy sailing tomorrow.
 Friendly welcoming group. Social times, variety of events, very interesting talks.
 Great value for money. Thank you

An opportunity to learn about random items of interest. Various clubs offer a wide variety of subjects and the friendliness and company is wonderful. I am currently enjoying three u3a clubs, more to come!
 Meeting like-minded people. Learning and honing new skills.
 Interesting talks at monthly meetings.

Making new friends and learning some new things.
 Good to have things to occupy myself - I like to be busy!

What do you enjoy about being a u3a member?
 The opportunity to learn new things, meet pleasant people and try new things.

The wide range of groups - something for everyone. The opportunity to share and learn topics and common interests with other members.

Something to look forward to every month.
 Companionship and the chance to meet new people with the same interests as mine.

Friendly people and such a wide range of interests.
 Keeps my mind active. Gets me out, change of scene.
 Interesting talks. Social interaction. Learning new things.
 Gets me out of the house to meet other people.
 Some meetings are quite educational.

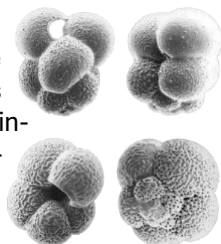
What do you enjoy about being a u3a member?
 Meeting people, the monthly talks are always varied and interesting - keeping the brain active!

Meeting people - learning about other people's interests. The u3a embraces a large number of different interests.
 Variety of groups, continue learning. As much or as little involvement as you wish. Good value.

Plenty of variety of courses, sociable.
 Interesting monthly meetings, friendly people.
 Mental stimulation. Human contact. Learning new skills.
 Everything!!
 Such a wide variety of subjects. Not expensive.
 Meeting so many people.

Science and Technology

Since the last Digest, the Group has had two splendid talks. In March, Haydon Bailey came to talk about Microfossils. As the name suggests, these are the remains of very small organisms from way back in the Earth's history and as such are of great interest to geologists. But this is not just a subject of study to interest only a few academics, oh no! They are of vital interest to the petroleum industry in giving them vital clues as to where to drill to find oil. Not only that, but their presence in chalk deposits also tells tunnellers how to avoid difficult terrain during their operations. I didn't know for example, that the Channel Tunnel was not just drilled in a dead straight line from Dover to Calais. It deviates left and right and up and down in its course, within reason of course, all because of what these little fossils can tell the experts like Prof. Bailey.



Last month, we had Phil Millette, a French-Canadian chemical engineer by origin who travelled all the way from Rickmansworth to lay before us the facts and the fantasies that lie behind the use of Hydrogen as a fuel for the future. For a start, hydrogen seems to come in different colours, green, blue and brown, not literally of course but the labels indicate the way in which it is produced and what carbon footprints it leaves in its manufacture. Phil gave us an extremely comprehensive and authoritative account of the possibilities and problems that its use would entail. He finished off by leading a very vigorous discussion in which many of the audience took part (including yours truly) that filled in particular areas of interest in its potential for our future energy needs.

For this month's talk on May 28th we are very grateful to our old friend Arthur Cunningham for giving at very short notice a talk on Steam Power, which we shall look forward to with keen interest.

In June Ray Wilkinson from the University of Hertfordshire will talk on Space Vehicles and in July, Prof Stephen Bown will give us an account of his experiences with Australian Flying Doctor service.

Norman Parkyns

The Colors of Hydrogen			
Blue Hydrogen Produced in a process known as steam methane reforming (SMR), in which natural gas is mixed with hot steam and a catalyst.	Brown Hydrogen The most environmentally damaging. It is produced from coal gasification, which generates carbon emissions.	Green Hydrogen Produced using electricity from renewable sources, such as hydro, solar, or wind power.	Pink Hydrogen Produced through electrolysis via nuclear energy.
Gray Hydrogen Extracted from natural gas without recapturing the greenhouse gases released during the process.	Turquoise Hydrogen Produced using methane pyrolysis and solid carbon rather than gaseous emissions.	Yellow Hydrogen Produced through electrolysis using solar power.	White Hydrogen Geological hydrogen found in naturally-occurring underground deposits created by fracking.

Railway group

We have enjoyed a number of fascinating speakers over the past few months and have a busy programme for the Autumn.

Chris Green described the work involved in the huge task of setting up Network Southeast. He brought back fond memories of the much enjoyed Network Card which enabled cheap off peak travel for many of us.

At our April meeting we heard from a manager from East West / Chiltern Railways who told us as much as he was allowed about progress on the project. We hope to be able to visit the line and see some of the new stations later in the year.

Our May meeting is focussed on London North Western and West Midland Railways and a rare opportunity to hear from our local regional manager. Look out for the full report in the next Digest.

We have trips in June, July and August so our next meeting is in September. Watch Group news for details

Jane Campbell

Tea Dance

According to Wikipedia, a **tea dance**, also called a **thé dansant** (French for "dancing tea"), was a dance held in the summer or autumn from 4 to 7 p.m. In the English countryside, a garden party sometimes preceded the dance. The function grew out of the afternoon tea tradition, and its origin can apparently be traced to the French colonisation of Morocco.

Books on Victorian etiquette included detailed instructions for hosting such gatherings, such as *Party-giving on Every Scale* (London, n.d. [1880]), which notes that "afternoon dances are seldom given in London, but are a popular form of entertainment in the suburbs, in garrison-towns, watering-places, etc." So, that puts us in our place!

We may only offer tea and biscuits, but we do offer a much greater variety of more modern dances. These include ballroom, Latin and Sequence dances, plus a couple of line dances. We don't give formal lessons, but can recommend good local teachers. Our dances take place in Apsley Community Centre between 2 and 4 pm every second Tuesday. If you wish to come along, please check the website for dates and just drop in.

Mike Sapsard, Coordinator

The Ten Types of Magic Trick

You may have watched Magic shows on TV and been amazed by the skills and mystery of what you saw. Whatever they were, those tricks can be categorised as follows:

1. **Production:** The magician produces something from nothing, like a coin from thin air.
2. **Vanish:** The magician makes something disappear, like the coin he just produced.
3. **Levitation:** The magician defies gravity by making something float freely in the air. He may make a table rise into the air.
4. **Suspension:** The magician makes an object float in the air with the aid of another object.
5. **Transformation:** The magician transforms something from one state to another, like changing its colour.
6. **Transportation:** The magician causes something to move from one place to another.
7. **Transposition:** The magician causes two objects to exchange places.
8. **Restoration:** The magician destroys an object then restores it to its original state. Like tearing up a card and then reproducing it intact.
9. **Penetration:** The magician makes one solid object pass through another solid object, like a coin through a plate.
10. **Escape:** The magician is placed in a restraining device like handcuffs, or tied with rope, and then escapes to safety, or puts on a coat while tied.

The most important part is not the cleverness of the technique, but how the audience reacts. This depends on the presentation. Most of us can master the techniques with a little practice, but unless we are born showmen, we have to work harder to master holding the attention of the audience. It has been said that 'Good magicians are actors doing magic'. This explains the growing popularity of 'mentalism', which is when the magician claims to have 'super' powers.

Should you wish to step along the road towards doing a few tricks with panache, Just come along to one of our meetings. Everyone is welcome.

Mike Sapsard, Coordinator: Magic Group

Wild Flower Study

The wildflower study group's meetings until Autumn are as follows:



Thurs 19 Jun	Thurs 31 Jul
Weds 25 Jun	Weds 13 Aug
Thurs 3 Jul	Thurs 21 Aug
Weds 9 Jul	Weds 17 Sep
Thurs 17 Jul	Weds 8 Oct
Weds 23 Jul	Weds 29 Oct

Jenny Dickson

Astronomy 190

Our Astronomy 190 group is a forum that allows us to learn about Space and share our thoughts, understanding and wonder of the Universe. We meet on the second Thursday of every month at St. Marys and St. Josephs Church Hall.

February took us down a new path for 2025, in our "Search for Life". In March, April and May we looked at the *origin* of life and how and where it could have happened. We heard recorded discussions from experts, including Professor Brian Cox. We scrutinised the recent claims that life had been found in the atmosphere of exoplanet Kepler K2-18b.

One of our active members, John, has been kind enough to cover additional topics for us, among these were "The 21 cm Universe!" and "The Asteroids Lucy and Donald Johanson". Sadly, John is moving in June, so we bid him a fond farewell at our May meeting. John, we are so thankful for your contributions.

In your honour, John, a quote from Douglas Adams!

"Space is big. You just won't believe how vastly, hugely, mind-bogglingly big it is. I mean, you may think it's a long way down the road to the chemist's, but that's just peanuts to space." – Douglas Adams, The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy

We always start our meetings with a recap of the month's Space News, and then we have a look at what we can see up in the night sky with Margaret.

We keep the level of discussion appropriate for the general public so please do come and join us as we *explore strange new worlds and seek out new life and new understanding* of our amazing universe.

Patricia Rowe, Coordinator

Exam Fever

Little Bo-Peep was losing her sleep
Over school exams looming ahead.
"Blow this for a lark," she cried in the dark,
"A shepherdess I'll be instead."

Little Bo-Peep purchased some sheep,
And, thinking they wouldn't be smelly,
She kept them at home so they wouldn't roam
But could sit with her watching the telly.

Little Bo-Peep got a GCSE,
Which probably needs some explaining
As you may not have heard of this one before:
The General Certificate in Sheep Entertaining.

Ian Brading

Industrial History

Robin Linsley, our 'talks coordinator' continues to arrange a variety of interesting talks for our monthly meetings – held on the third Wednesday each month.

In March we learned from Mike Stanyon the history and intrigue behind Dickinson's Basildon Bond and Lion stationery brands. Mike's talk was laced with a fair amount of humour and was well received by the fifty attendees.

April saw the group take their annual charabanc trip. This year Harvey arranged for us to visit the Abbey Pumping Station at Leicester and the nearby National Gas Museum. Originally a sewerage pumping station built in the 1890s, the pumping station buildings now house exhibits for transport, public health, light, toys and civil engineering in addition to the original, and still working, steam-powered beam engines. The Gas Museum was a delight as it housed examples of old domestic gas appliances allowing everyone to reminisce about the good old days when gas mantles regularly broke, it took an age to toast bread, and we'd run out of change for the meter!



Looking forward, we have an excellent programme of talks lined up so do join us on the third Wednesday each month, 10am at St Johns Church Hall, Boxmoor. If you'd like to join our Group please email: group024@u3adacorum.org
Alan Olive

Literature B

The group commemorated the 250th anniversary this year of Jane Austen's birth by reading her satire of the Gothic Novel, *Northanger Abbey*. Although this was the first of her novels to be completed in full in around 1799 it was only published posthumously in 1817. It had been bought by a publisher originally in 1803 for £10 but never published until bought back by her brother in 1816 for the original price and published elsewhere.

We usually read fiction, including a classic once a year and a children's book in December. This year we tried a non fiction book, *Red Notice* by Bill Browder which was an experiment we plan to repeat. Described as "a true story of high finance, murder and one man's fight for justice" it was an enthralling read.

Other books we have read recently are *The Darling Buds of May* by HE Bates which amused us but also resulted in a surprising amount of discussion and *The Women* by Kristin Hannah which provided historical insight into a nurse's roll in the Vietnam War and the effect on Veterans returning to American society.

We plan to meet Monday mornings every three weeks at 10am in members' homes. We are a small but friendly group and pleased to welcome new members.
Judy Roythorne

Military History

The Military History Group has had a very busy first few months of the year. We have had a mix of speakers ranging from our excellent members, doing fine work in researching their facts, to experienced presenters with years of detailed knowledge on their subjects.

Thus far we have learned a lot about the English Civil War, brought to us by Bob Spence, Operation Barbarossa, Hitler's attempt to overrun Russia, courtesy of a lot of work by the excellent Tim Thompson and in April, local author Timandra Slade gave us the personal background of her book, *From a Hard Place to a Rock*, about her father's exploits as a soldier who did not manage to escape at Dunkirk, but had to make his way, as did many others, to Gibraltar. A really personal insight into what our forces endured.

In May we were treated to a really informative talk about both the Cathars and the power of the Papacy in the 13th century, plus a really detailed and realistic account of General Wolfe and the capture of Quebec in 1759. Also in May we had a group trip to the deHavilland Museum at London Colney, which has recently been upgraded.

In June there will be a talk by an American Civil War expert recounting the meteoric rise of George Armstrong Custer, a man who divides opinion amongst us all as to his motives and skills. This presentation is brought to us by Andrew Houseman, who used to run the bookshop in Berkhamsted. In July we revert to our school history lessons, perhaps, with John Waller enlightening us about both of the Peloponnesian Wars between Athens and Sparta. You may have seen the movie! As a group we shall be having a trip in late July to a venue, as yet undisclosed.

Further presentations are booked for later in the year and if anybody would like to give us a talk, we would love to hear from you.

We finish the year at our annual Christmas dinner and Quiz at Shendish House which is always a most enjoyable occasion.
Graham Kendall gkagm@aol.com

"Listen up – there's no war that will end all wars." – Haruki Murakami

Group Listings

If you wish to attend a group for the first time, or if anything is unclear, please contact the person listed to express your interest, to find out how it works, and whether there is space. This list is correct at May 2025.

085 Armchair Traveller St John's Church Large Hall	group085@u3adacorum.org	3 rd Tuesday 14:00 - 16:00
039 Art Club Gadebridge Community Centre	group039@u3adacorum.org	Alt Fridays 10:00 - 12:00
223 Arts, Crafts, Skills Kings Arms, Berkhamsted	group223@u3adacorum.org	2 nd Monday 10:00 - 12:00
190 Astronomy Practical St Mary & St Joseph Church Hall	group190@u3adacorum.org	2 nd Thursday 14:00 - 16:00
364 Backgammon Leverstock Green Village Hall	group364@u3adacorum.org	First Thursday 15:30 - 17:30
360 Badminton Hemel Hempstead Leisure Centre	group360@u3adacorum.org	Thursdays 10:00 - 12:00
363 Book Group Oakwood, Berkhamsted	group363@u3adacorum.org	3 rd Thursdays 14:00 - 16:00
029 Book Reading HH St Johns Church Small Hall	group029@u3adacorum.org	2 nd /4 th Mon 10:00 - 12:00
183 Bus Trippers Various Locations	group183@u3adacorum.org	2 nd Wed Various Times
007 Calligraphy Leverstock Green Village Hall	group007@u3adacorum.org	Mon 2 weekly 13:00 - 15:00
048 Card Making A (HH) Sundew Road	group048@u3adacorum.org	1 st Tuesday 10:00 - 12:00
177 Card Making B (BK) Open Door, Berkhamsted	group177@u3adacorum.org	3 rd Friday 13:30 - 15:30
011 Circle Dance Carey Baptist Church	group011@u3adacorum.org	1 st , 3 rd Tues 11:00 - 12:30
080 Creative Writing B Wrensfield	group080@u3adacorum.org	Thu 3 weekly, 14:00 - 16:00
082 Creative Writing C Gravel Lane, Boxmoor	group082@u3adacorum.org	1 st Thursday 14:00 - 16:00
046 Cribbage and Scrabble Adeyfield Community Centre	group046@u3adacorum.org	2 nd , 4 th Mon 14:00 - 16:00
064 Cycling Various Locations	group064@u3adacorum.org	1 st Thursday 10:00 Start
090 Discussion B BK Sacred Heart Berkhamsted	group090@u3adacorum.org	4 th Tuesday 14:00 - 16:00

081 Exploring London Various Locations	group081@u3adacorum.org	Last week of Month
197 Exploring Towns, Villages Visits by Car Share	group197@u3adacorum.org	3 rd Thursday Various Times
073 Flower Arranging Highfield Community Centre	group073@u3adacorum.org	2 nd Thu, Not July/August 14:00 - 16:00
159 Folk Singing Adeyfield Free Church	group159@u3adacorum.org	2 nd , 4 th Wed 10:00 - 12:00
202 French Book Club Highclere Drive	group202@u3adacorum.org	Last Tue 2 - monthly 15:00 - 17:00
214 French Conv - Adv Member's Home	group214@u3adacorum.org	1 st & 3 rd Tues 10:15 - 12:00
018 Garden Visiting Various Locations	group018@u3adacorum.org	3 rd Wed, Mar to Oct, 14:00 Start
017 Garden Trips and Tours Various Locations	group017@u3adacorum.org	3 rd Thursday 10:00 Start
019 Genealogy A BK Zoom	group019@u3adacorum.org	2 nd Monday 14:00 - 16:00
051 Genealogy B HH St Pauls Highfield & Zoom	group051@u3adacorum.org	3 rd Monday 10:00 - 12:00
059 German Improvers St Johns Church Large Hall	group059@u3adacorum.org	Mon 2 weekly 14:30 - 16:30
024 Industrial History St Johns Church Large Hall	group024@u3adacorum.org	3 rd Wednesday 10:00 - 12:00
095 Italian (Lang and Culture) St Johns Church Large Hall	group095@u3adacorum.org	2 nd , 4 th Thur 10:00 - 12:00
092 Italian Conversation (Int) Member's Home	group092@u3adacorum.org	1 st & 3 rd Thur 14:30 - 16:30
156 Italian (Step 2) Adeyfield Community Centre	group156@u3adacorum.org	Every Friday 14:00 - 16:00
188 Japanese Various Locations	group188@u3adacorum.org	2 nd , 4 th Thu 10:00 - 11:30
026 Jazz Appreciation St Francis Hall, Boxmoor	group026@u3adacorum.org	Thu 4 weekly 10:00 - 12:00
175 Knit and Natter Tile Kiln Lane Leverstock Green	Group175@u3adacorum.org	Wed 2 Weekly 14:00 - 16:00

076 Latin Beginners Various Locations BK	group076@u3adacorum.org	2 nd and 4 th Wed 14:15 - 15:45
076 Latin Intermediate Various Locations BK	group076@u3adacorum.org	1 st and 3 rd Wed 14:30 - 16:00
027 Literature A BK Various Locations	group027@u3adacorum.org	Tue 2 - weekly 10:00 - 12:00
028 Literature B Various Locations Berkhamsted	group028@u3adacorum.org	Mon 3 - weekly 10:00 - 12:00
031 Local History St Johns Church Large Hall	group031@u3adacorum.org	4 th or last Tues 14:00 - 16:00
157 Lunch Club A Various Locations	group0157@u3adacorum.org	2 nd Tuesday Ring for Times
203 Lunch Club B Various Locations	group203@u3adacorum.org	4 th Tuesday Ring for Times
215 Magic Introduction Leverstock Green Village Hall	group215@u3adacorum.org	Fri 2 - Weekly 14:00 - 16:00
060 MahJong St Pauls Church Parish Room	group060@u3adacorum.org	1 st , 3 rd Wed 10:00 - 12:00
361 Maths and Puzzles St Johns Church Large Hall	group361@u3adacorum.org	Third Monday 14:15 - 16:00
065 Military History St Johns Church Large Hall	group065@u3adacorum.org	1 st Wednesday 10:00 - 12:00
025 Money Matters St Johns Church Large Hall	group025@u3adacorum.org	2 nd Monday 10:00 - 12:00
035 Music Apprec (Classical) St Francis Hall, Boxmoor	group035@u3adacorum.org	Thu 2 weekly 10:00 - 12:00
089 Musical Miscellany St Francis Hall, Boxmoor	group089@u3adacorum.org	Thu 4 weekly 10:00 - 12:00
037 Nature Study Various Locations outdoors	group037@u3adacorum.org	Every Tuesday 10:00 - 13:30
038 Needlework Ivy House Lane BK	group038@u3adacorum.org	Tue 2 weekly 10:00 - 12:00
067 Opera - Introduction Rider Close Bovingdon	group067@u3adacorum.org	3 rd Friday 14:00 - 16:00
075 Out with Friends St Johns Church Full Hall	group075@u3adacorum.org	1 st Friday 10:00 - 12:00

036 Painting for Pleasure Northchurch Social Centre, Outside in Summer	group036@u3adacorum.org	1 st Thursday 10:00 - 12:00
040 Patchwork Adeyfield Community Centre	group040@u3adacorum.org	2 nd , 4 th Wed 13:00 - 15:00
045 Pencil Drawing Adeyfield Community Centre	group045@u3adacorum.org	1 st Wednesday 10:00 - 12:00
061 Philosophy Quaker Meeting House, HH	group061@u3adacorum.org	Tue 2 weekly 14:30 - 16:30
151 Photography Club St Johns Church Large Hall	group151@u3adacorum.org	2 nd Wednesday 14:00 - 16:00
041 Play Reading A Smoke House, Middle Road BK	group041@u3adacorum.org	2 nd Tuesday 09:30 - 12:00
042 Play Reading B Bk Various Homes, Zoom Personal Account	group042@u3adacorum.org	1 st Wednesday 10:00 - 12:00
071 Poetry Appreciation Chalfont Close, HH	group071@u3adacorum.org	3 rd Wednesday 14:00 - 16:00
088 Poetry Writing Gravel Lane, Boxmoor	group088@u3adacorum.org	Mon 3 weekly 14:00 - 16:00
167 Railways	group167@u3adacorum.org	Last Thursday, (not Dec) 10:00 - 12:00
182 Reading BK Cedar Road Berkhamsted	group182@u3adacorum.org	2 nd Friday 10:00 - 12:30
213 Rug Makers Windmill Road HH	group213@u3adacorum.org	2 nd Tuesday 14:00 - 16:00
084 Russian Beechwood Park	group084@u3adacorum.org	Thursday 10:00 - 11:30
165 Science and Technology St Johns Church Full Hall	Group165@u3adacorum.org	Last Wed 14:15 - 16:00
185 Sewing Bee Adeyfield Community Centre	group0185@u3adacorum.org	2 nd , 4 th Tuesday 10:00 - 12:00
187 Spanish Lang and Cult Potten End	group187@u3adacorum.org	2 nd and 4 th Wed 14:30 - 16:30
221 Swimming (Berkhamsted) Berkhamsted Leisure centre	group221@u3adacorum.org	3 rd Friday 12:00 - 14:30

