

Monday 26th
is the last
Bank Holiday
before
Christmas!



So, make the
most of it!

Let's hope it'll
be parasols
not umbrellas!

The next Coffee Morning is on Wednesday 7th August at 10.30am



Held in the front room of Westerham Hall, these events provide an excellent opportunity to chat and get to know members over a cuppa! If you know anyone thinking of joining the u3a, bring them along! They are more relaxed than the Open Meetings, allowing more time for discussion with other members - often resulting in the decision to join being made on the spot!

The next Open Meeting is on Thursday 8th August in Westerham Hall at 2.00pm

Instead of a talk this month we have a Quiz Afternoon, hosted by our very own Colin Hill. Get your team sorted - a maximum of 6 but if you haven't got enough, we will find you others to play with. Topics will be varied so you don't need to know much about anything – it's just a bit of fun and includes interval refreshments – so do come and join us!



CALL TO ACTION We need two members to help set out the tables and chairs. You would need to be at Westerham Hall at 1.00pm.

The **AGM**, on July 11th, was attended by 92 members, easily a quorum, which meant it could go ahead. The elected officers and reports can be found on the [website](#).

Dates for your Diary

September 4th Wednesday - Coffee Morning

September 12th Thursday – Cyber Security by Bridget Veitch

Cybercrime fraud accounts for 40% of all crime in the UK and continues to grow apace. Most of the perpetrators are outside UK Police jurisdiction so our main means of protection is education on how to spot a scam, what to do if you suspect a scam, and how to avoid being a target in the future. It covers such topics as: Dangers of free Wi-Fi, Scam emails, texts, phone calls, WhatsApp, Contactless bank card frauds, Romance frauds and Passwords. Anybody who uses a computer, iPad/phone or smart phone should attend this talk, it could save you a lot of money!

Members Outing to Basildon Hall & Park June 28th



The sun was shining as 50 members left Westerham for Basildon Park, near Reading. Basildon Hall is an 18th century Palladian style mansion, standing in 300 acres and has passed through several owners. In the 1940s it was requisitioned for US & Canadian troops, resulting in considerable damage, and after an ambitious programme of repair by Lord Iliffe, the owner from 1952, it was gifted to the National Trust in 1978. It is a popular film set, having appeared in such epics as Downton

Abbey & The Crown. In addition to the tour of the house there were various walks around the estate for those who felt more energetic! A most enjoyable day was had by all, thanks to the excellent organisation by Val Cahill. For the full report go to the [website](#)

If you have any ideas for a suitable location for next year's trip, your suggestions would be very welcome!

News from the Groups

Local Theatre

A suggestion for a new group is 'Local Theatre' but the feeling is that such events should be open to all. Ticket prices are so much lower than London, often the acting is as good, and travelling is easier. Many of them have a summer break but Marli has provided a selection of what is to come:

The Oast Theatre, Tonbridge 'Brain Storm' by Ned Glasier 19th - 21st Sept.

The Miller Centre, Caterham 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night' 26th Sept. - 5th Oct.

WADS (Westerham Amateur Dramatics) 'Peter Pan' 30th Nov. - 7th Dec.

Bromley Little Theatre 'Jane Eyre' 13th - 21st September

Performances for next season will be published in the autumn. If you would like further information about any of these productions or venues, please contact Marli

Musical Theatre



The group has had a very successful year with an impressive list of performances attended. Occurring roughly once a month, they have included 'The King and I', 'Hamilton', 'Sister Act', 'ABBA Voyage', 'Moulin Rouge' and 'The Play That Went Wrong'. Productions booked for the rest of 2024 are 'Fawlty Towers', 'The 39 Steps', 'The Michael Jackson Story', 'The Choir of Man' and 'Carols at the Royal Albert Hall'. Tickets

for these have all been sold but go on the waiting list, as there are often last-minute cancellations.

Stop Press: £35 stalls tickets for [Farm Hall](#), at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket at 2.30 on 29th August may still be available! Contact Chris for further details.

I have a few stalls tickets, at £55, for [Juno & The Paycock](#), starring **Mark Rylance**, at the Gielgud Theatre, at 2.30 on October 30th.

Canasta

This is a flourishing Canasta group of very enthusiastic players meeting up once a month. Pam has instructed all members in the rules used as there are many different versions! They are loving the game and playing really well, even planning to teach their friends and families so they can play more often! Now that extra packs and shufflers have been bought there is room for a few more - interested beginners or experienced players. Pam will take pleasure in teaching beginners separately, bringing them in line with the more competent players, which is a real bonus!



London Explorers



Our latest walk took us to Shakespeare's Southwark. Although he was born and buried in Stratford upon Avon, it was in London that he made his name and fortune. Crossing the Thames we walked along the Southbank, famous for its history of bear pits and brothels, and passed the ruins of Winchester Palace which was one of medieval London's largest and most important buildings. Crossing back over the river, via the Millenium Bridge, we finished our interesting walk, on a beautiful day, at the Salvation Army HQ for lunch.

Book Club 1

The group's London literary visit this year was to the British Library. The national library of the UK houses 170 million items and they continue to collect everything published in the UK! The Treasures Gallery houses an incredible collection of some of the world's most impressive books and manuscripts. The British Newspaper Archive, available to search online, is a fascinating source of our national history. The impressive building, which had a controversial planning start in life, has very good cafes and a restaurant, so we could sit and watch more academic visitors hard at work!



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