

Bexley u3a Newsletter

Learn, laugh, live

January 2025

<https://www.bexleyu3a.org.uk>

Reg. Charity 1044195

National Office <https://www.u3a.org.uk>

Dear Bexley u3a Members,

We've made it to 2025! Well done us!

What did you think of our pared back Christmas social? Lesley provided nibbles, presenting them attractively on the tables. Trays of sandwiches, quiches, cakes, to which we had become accustomed, thanks to the ladies, would have had a cost implication. Without volunteers to cater, would you wish to pay more for food bought in? Nick returned to sing for us, continuing for longer, after his computer briefly went on strike. Please let the committee know whether you wish the format of the Summer and Christmas socials to remain the same. Suggestions please! And Wendy Scott and Maureen Wright have said they will "man" the meet and greet table from now on.

As is the way with other u3as, we aim to be able to offer online payments soon. This will make membership subscriptions, for example, easier to collect. Fear not, cheques and cash are still accepted.

Luigi, our Treasurer and IT whiz, is looking in to making our website more attractive and interactive. We need to offer more spaces in groups with your help. Please pitch your committee your ideas for new groups. There might be some financial help available. Ask Jenny when she is meeting new members for coffee at the Furze Wren in Bexleyheath. I'm sure she will appreciate the support. It's an excellent reason for a good chat!

I would at this point like to raise the intellectual nature of the newsletter, but failing that, what did one snowman say to the other snowman? "Can you smell carrots?"

Time to make a fast exit! Happy New Year!

Best Wishes from Rosey

Breaking news: Watch out for details of new monthly raffle, to raise funds for socials, eg the Christmas do.

Future Meetings at Christ Church Bexleyheath – Dates for Your Diary

9th January - Richard Winston - *A Wild Life Talk*

13th February - John Halligan - *Spitalfields through the Ages*

13th March - Lucy Lewis - *Bomb Disposal Light the Fuse*

10th April - Chris Truran - *First forensics and the Tottenham Outrage*

8th May - Paul Beard - *Insight into Dr Barnardos History and work with Children*

12th June - John Pearson - *Blessed are the Cheesemakers*

10th July - Gwen Jones - *Pearly Queen of Greenwich*

Current Bexley U3A Groups

Alternative Book Group(V) ; Armchair Travellers (V); Choir(Vs); City Explorers; Creative Writing; Crochet; Decorative Arts; Family History Advanced; French Conversation (V); French Intermediate; Gardening; Italian(V); Jazz Appreciation (V); Knit and Knatter (V); Life Story (V); Listening to Music(V); Micropubs (V); More of London; Photoshop Etcetera (V); Play Reading(V); Poetry Reading; Rummikub; Scrabble; Self Help Art; Spanish Conversation; Steam Trains (V); Strollers (V); Table Top Games (V); Tea, Cake & a Chat (V).

If you are interested in any of the above groups, please contact me – email, telephone or leave a message.

I will get back to you with details of the group or groups that interest you.

If you are a Group Leader please keep me informed of any alterations to times of meetings, change of leadership details, vacancies etc.

Many thanks. Jenny Cosser (Group Liaison)

The London Region Events Team are pleased to announce that our Monthly Online Talks programme will continue from January to March 2025 . As usual, the talks will be delivered via Zoom on the first Monday of each month 17.30-18.30 (log in from 17.00).

- Monday 6th January: Leonardo da Vinci: would he have made a good u3a member?
- Monday 3rd February: Our human instinct for language.
- Monday 3rd March: Cultural Debate
"Brave New World" vs "Nineteen Eighty-Four" This will use a recorded debate to consider the mood of our time as reflected in two great 20th century novels.

Please view the [Events](#) page of our website for detailed information on these sessions and links to the booking forms. Please register early as bookings will close 48 hours prior to each talk. For assistance please email bookings.lru3a@gmail.com

Executive Committee 2024 – 2025

Chair	Rosey Case		
Vice Chair	VACANCY		
Secretary	Liz Salter		
Treasurer	Luigi Lipparelli		
Membership	Douglas West		
Group Liaison	Jenny Cosser		
E-mail & IT	Luigi Lipparelli		
Speaker's Secretary	Lesley Draper		
Database	Luigi Lipparelli		
Meet & Greet	Jackie & Sandra		
Non Committee - London Region Rep	VACANCY		
News Letter Editor	Mary Jupp		

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