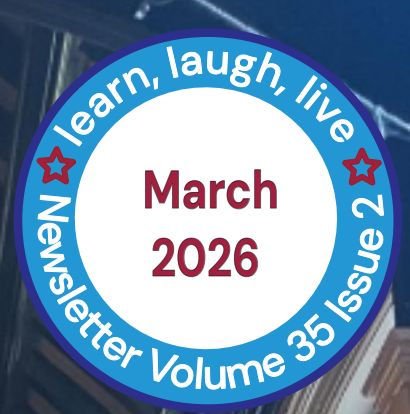


# u3a Bromley



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8th May p3**

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# Contact Us

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chair@u3abromley.org.uk

**Secretary** Angela Dowling

**Treasurer** Gary Chin

**Membership Secretary** Laury Burr

**Editor**

**Website Team** David Moody

Sally O'Donnell

**Online Newsletter Distributor** David Moody

**Room Hire** Pat Apps

## Group Liaison Officers (GLOs)

Peter Browne 1

Mary Garside 2

Carole Blacher 3

Celia Thompson 4

Celia Thompson 5

## Interest Group Numbering Explained

Against each group name a single number is given to identify the Group Liaison Officer responsible for that group, also shown in the February 2024 Interest Groups Booklet, and to whom you should refer if wishing to start a new group or for further information regarding groups.

# Dates for your Diary

**3rd Mar 2026 Local Studies**

Allan Goodison  
The Woodland Trust

**17th Mar 2026 General Meeting**

Andrew Baker  
The Crumbling of British Politics  
in Turmoil

**7th Apr 2026 Local Studies**

Siobhan Clarke  
The Tower of London

**21st Apr 2026 Annual General Meeting**

**5th May 2026 Local Studies**

Subject to be confirmed

**19th May 2026 General Meeting**

Dr Sohail Husain  
Beyond Beliefs - One Family's  
Incredible Story

**2nd June 2026 Local Studies**

Ian Bevan  
Drury Lane Theatre

**16th June 2026 General Meeting**

Janie Ramsey  
Lifestyle of the Duke and  
Duchess of Windsor

All Local Studies (1st Tuesday of the month)  
and  
General Meetings (3rd Tuesday of the month)  
are held in the  
**Whitfield Hall,  
United Reformed Church (URC),  
20 Widmore Road,  
Bromley, BR1 1RY**

Time : 10.30am

**Entry fee:**

**Local Studies: £3.00**

**General Meetings: Members free.**

Non-members £5.00, refundable if  
joining as a member of u3a Bromley.

Front cover photo: *Cittie of York* (pub),  
High Holborn, London. (More on page 11)  
by Susan Harris



# Welcome to Issue 2, March 2026

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Online booking / payment instructions will be emailed out shortly

If unable to book online email the Events Team:

And only if unable to email, phone



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## General Meeting: 20th January 2026

### *Along the Waterways of Britain*

Kirk Martin who is a **u3a Bromley** member offered to do a very interesting talk on England's historic Waterways. We heard many stories on families living and working on the Canals, the history of how the canals came about from late 18th Century and much more.

Our audience of over 180 enjoyed Kirk's talk which was very well received.

**Shirley Corney**  
Speaker  
Secretary



## A hopefully moving experience

That's what I hope will have happened by the time you receive the March newsletter. Change comes to us all and after 40 years in the same house, I am moving on for a fresh start and something easier to deal with. I managed to find what I wanted in the same post code area, in a cul-de-sac (safe for the cats!), smaller and easier to deal with and much closer to buses and West Wickham high street. I'm sure that will be a relief to those who have experienced the mile trudge from a bus stop to my current abode.



I have not worked out how to break the news to my two moggies and have as a number one priority

to get a cat flap fitted, I won't hear the end of it if I don't.

So please bear with me as my life will be in upheaval while I aim for moving at the end of February (solicitors willing). Early March will be a case of trial and error while I try and get internet access and (as importantly) my TV set up!

## Events Team, busy bees

The Events team are well ahead in plans for a variety of extra activities, starting with a Quiz morning at the URC on 10th March. They even have entertainment booked for the Christmas Social on 15th December, now that's what I call planning ahead.

## Succession planning – New Chair

**THIS NEEDS REPEATING!** As my term of office is coming into its final months, ending at the 2027 AGM, we need people who can take u3a Bromley even further forward.

Would you like to see what's involved by sitting in on meetings, job shadowing and generally getting a feel for the role? We are also thinking that a vice chair would be useful and also be an aid to a potential new chair. Two heads and all that!

Please get in touch with me for a chat, completely without commitment, the earlier the better, even if I am moving!

**And of course there are other roles that might suit you, so please, think about joining us on the committee!**

So, on behalf of all of us on the committee, thanks for continuing to enjoy u3a Bromley and helping to make it a continuing success.



**Sandy Boden**

**chair@u3abromley.org.uk**

## HELP REQUIRED FOR LOCAL STUDIES

Our Events Secretary, i.e. the person who finds all our speakers for our monthly meetings, will be stepping down at the end of this year. She's not really called our Events Secretary, but she does find our speakers for us.

Would you be interested in taking over from Hester? All of 2026 is dealt with, and we need to look now towards the programme for 2027.

This is what you could expect to be doing, to maintain the range and interest in our talks:

**Our brief:** Greater London and the Southeast of England: topics of historical interest. History starts from yesterday, going backwards!

Find speakers via flyers, exhibitions, visits, expeditions, friends and family, members of other organisations, plus your own interests.

**Interested? If you would like to talk about the above, please contact:**

**Steve Woods**

Or

**Hester Fernee**

We have a catalogue of past speakers.

Bookings need to be confirmed as far ahead as possible. The speaker needs details of venue, timings, presentation facilities we offer and travel alternatives, stressing parking availability and restrictions.

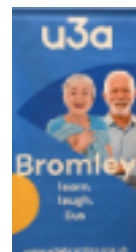
Ask confirmation of their fee. Send emails to keep in touch with your booked speakers.

A month prior to their date, request bank details ready for payment, and confirmation of what they need, technically.

On the day, meet and greet, then send thanks afterwards.

This year's dates are booked, so we need to look at 2027 (a few ideas are in hand).

Are you the person to do the above? Or two people who would like to job-share it?



# John Rich – Life with u3a Bromley

*It is with regret we say goodbye to John Rich who has spent many years being involved with Bromley u3a as you will see from his story. John was our chair for five years, stepping down in March 2008, I think you will find his article fascinating with its picture of a bygone Bromley u3a. Sandy Boden*

Almost twenty-five years ago, my wife Heather said that since I had just retired, I should consider joining u3a Bromley, of which she was already a member.

I decided to join and went along to my first meeting which was for new members. After about two years, I was invited to attend the Executive meeting which at that time I believe was chaired by Leslie Stacey who founded *u3a Bromley* and was I believe founder of the u3a movement in the country. Within a year I was invited to join the Executive Committee. Within a further year I was invited to stand as Chairman of Bromley and took over from Ben Bedford who had stood in for Leslie Stacey who wished to stand down.

I found the main meetings which I attended most enjoyable and joined Modern World which at that time Albert Hill ran as chairman for many years and I think he had also spent some years as Chairman of u3a Bromley following Leslie's retirement, Local Studies and of course the General Meetings. All of which I thoroughly enjoyed.

New members meetings were held twice a year and at the first one that I chaired, a new lady member stood and asked if we ran a computer course and at that time we did not. At that time home computers were very rare, and most people did not possess one. When I retired, I decided to purchase a computer along with all the equipment to go with it - a printer, keyboard and mouse. My knowledge back then was very basic, and my wife thought it would all be a waste of money. But after I taught her how to use it, she now uses the computer more than I do!

To start the course, I had to find firstly a location where we could teach and as at the time was, following my retirement, working in support part time at Coopers Technical College in Chislehurst, I approached the college administrator to explore if it would be feasible to rent one of the computer laboratories in the premises. At the time they had just been granted Academy status and were looking to invite local organisations to use the premises out of school hours. I was successful in my application which left me having to recruit teachers. Fortunately, there were several members of Bromley who had either skills with having been teachers or lecturers and our Membership Secretary at that time, Edna Grant, knew of a man who was a Bromley Member, David Bare, who agreed to join us and wrote the first couple of years

course notes. David had been working with computers for many years. I had meanwhile written an article in our Bromley Newsletter to invite members to join the course, and I also spoke of the proposed course at various u3a meetings. So in around 2003 we ran our first course. Following a rather shaky start as several members who started the course, dropped out. I attempted to restart the course for beginners only, the following year and we had enough to make the course viable. I advertised the course again for the autumn and we had another full course of about thirty members. Peter Bolton then joined us, and he had been a lecturer at Bromley

had a great knowledge of combining photography with computers. He would lead the lessons on the use of photography with a computer.

We also ran a Facebook lesson teaching the students how to use Facebook. This was run by Carole Blacher who is currently a GLO and enjoyed the wonderful email address of Princess Flamingo. 🦩

I was very fortunate to be able to recruit fifteen members who were skilled in computer use who all acted as instructors. We met every Saturday in school term time for just over fifteen years and in that time around 1,700 members from Bromley,

Orpington and Beckenham u3as passed through the courses. At one time, we had about sixty members on the courses every week with just over one hundred waiting to join a subsequent course. Over the last twelve years we were able to rent three computer laboratories at Coopers every Saturday.

I spent around three hours most evenings printing over one thousand sets of course notes which had been emailed to me during the week for the up to four courses running at the time. I believe that in the time the courses had been running I wore out at least seven printers!

When we started the courses, only about 20% of members could use a computer and when the courses ended after fifteen years, most members in u3a Bromley had become computer literate.

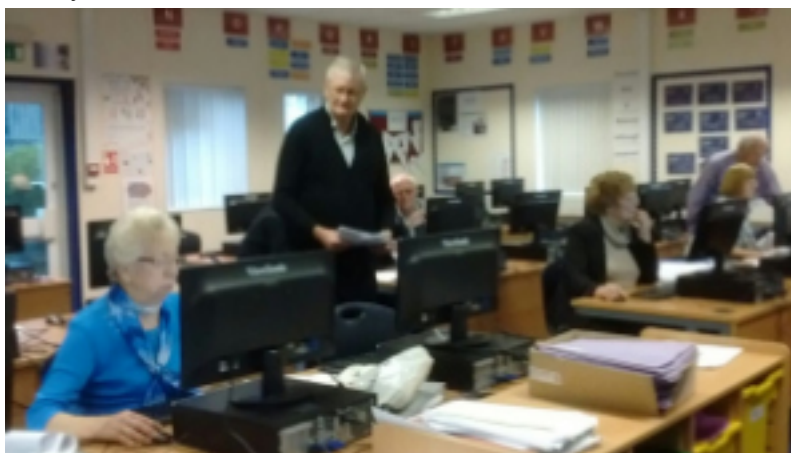
I feel very gratified that the courses at the time had become highly successful and were a great help to most of the membership. When we started the courses, many members who had retired could only use a computer at work with a specific work-related program and a very limited knowledge of Word, Email and searching the Internet.

In December last year I decided to leave u3a Bromley as I am not quite as mobile as I used to be, but I have not left the u3a movement as three years ago I joined Orpington u3a which is more local to me.

The last twenty-five years have been most enjoyable especially my five years as chairman and the fifteen years I spent running the computer courses. I will miss all my friends in u3a Bromley.

I wish *u3a Bromley* great success in the future.

**John Rich**



**Learning computer skills at Coopers Technical College, Chislehurst**

College and was also very skilled in computer techniques. I also was fortunate to have Joan Armstrong join the course to assist. You may remember that Joan was my vice chairman and was using a computer. Joan agreed to join us to assist the students. Sadly, Joan passed away last year. We ran the beginner's course successfully, but we then had a demand for a more advanced course which we named Intermediate, and I was able to recruit Sue Gregory who at that time was our Bromley Treasurer. Sue ran the Intermediate course for many years by which time there was an additional demand for an Advanced course, so we then recruited and ran that course. I was then able to recruit Richard Hunt who was the Bromley Webmaster and Bromley Newsletter editor and edited the Group Members Booklet and ran the computer club at Oakley House. Richard had an incredible knowledge of computer systems having worked for many years as a senior IT specialist for a major bank and his skills made his courses highly successful. These courses became so successful that we had a further demand to run a Web Design course which ran for a few years. We were also very fortunate to have Alan Davis, who until recently had been editor of the Bromley Newsletter and

## Ageing Positively (5)

In January we discussed *Things that make us Happy, Barriers to Happiness and How to overcome them*.

We decided that happiness is definitely good for health; friends and a sense of humour are essential. One very good tip for overcoming hurts and negative thoughts was to write them down on a piece of paper and then burn them. This seems to have a very cathartic effect.

A couple of us visited the Thirst Exhibition in January. This was on at the *Welcome Collection* in Euston, a free Museum with a great cafeteria and very cosy library.

Water is becoming a great global challenge affecting us all. The

exhibition begins by showing:

- Countries where water is scarce, the difficulties of extreme drought and the ways these communities have devised for securing fresh water.
- We saw the personal impacts of floods throughout the world and how vulnerable we all are.
- Glaciers and how vital they are as a source of fresh water.
- The Iraqi Marshes, formed by the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers; home to the Ma'dan people (meaning 'dweller in the plains'), one of humanity's oldest cultures. Rush, reed and papyrus are interspersed with mud, providing an oasis for millions of migratory birds, fish and wildlife.
- Today, sewage is being channelled into the Marshes. Routed through

reeds, the wastewater is cleaned by bacteria and provide minerals and nutrients to support plants and fruit trees.

- We saw homes made of reeds which could be transferred to drier areas in times of floods.
- An example of cylindrical ice containers in ewers in Iran, imported from China, designed to keep water cool.

February was about *Self Assertiveness*. We talked about developing the necessary skills to control stress and aid communication.

We will be visiting The Wallace collection on 12th February.

**Gladys Donovan**



## Computing: Tablets etc (5)

"Aggravated by Android? Exasperated by email? Irritated by your iPhone or iPad? Maddened by your Mac? Rattled by Ringo? Wound up by Windows?"



We can probably help. Drop into the Richmal Crompton pub (opposite Bromley South Station) any Thursday or on the 1st or 3rd Monday each month at 10am for friendly patient advice from one (or more) of our team of experienced users. Ideally let Keith know you are coming beforehand, especially if you might be a bit late. You will find us right at the back of the pub, near the kitchen door.

No charge, though the pub appreciates you buying a coffee (other beverages are available).

**Contact Keith**

## Chess Club (2)

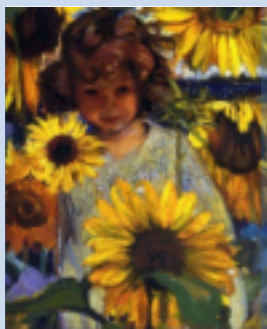


'The Chess club has now been running for 5 weeks and the mixture of chess levels have blended together well. The informal atmosphere with cups of tea and biscuits leads to a pleasant and friendly afternoon and hopefully improve 'chess skills'.

- Weekly : Wednesday afternoons 2pm to 4pm.
- Address : United Reformed Church,  
20 Widmore Road, Bromley BR1 1RY.
- Leaders : Laurie & Janice Bourke.
- Cost : £4.00 per week, to be paid weekly.

We would love to hear from you if you are interested

## Art Appreciation (1)



Canadian  
F H Varley,  
*Sunflower Girl*



Canadian  
Lawren Harris  
*Sunset*



Bruegel  
*Peasant Wedding*  
1568



Schoenberg  
*Self Portrait in Blue*

On 21 January Graham took us to Vienna. In the sixteenth century the Hapsburg Empire enveloped Spain, Naples, Southern Netherlands and Austria, with Vienna as the capital. The presiding royal families collected many valuable paintings. By 1910 they were still just in power and Vienna was a larger city than Paris or Berlin. It had been rebuilt and with a booming population and vibrant culture and society, it attracted many artists. It now holds many important art museums. The Kunsthistorisches is packed with old masters from the royal collections, with works by Titian, Correggio,

Bosch, Durer and Raphael. 'Hunters in the snow' by Bruegel has become the most popular ever Christmas card. The Secession Building, the Belvedere and the Leopold all house great works of art from through the centuries. 'Vienna City Ball' by Wilhelm Gause, 'The Kiss' by Klimt, 'Family Self Portrait' by Egon Schiele are to name but a few.

On 4 February Glenys told us about the Canadian Group of Seven, a group of artists formed in the early twentieth century who wanted to give Canada a national identity which

showed its links with the Northern wilderness. Although with jobs and families, they spent much time canoeing along the waterways to inaccessible scenery so that they could capture the forests and rivers, which they did in a colourful and vibrant way. They had a box car fitted with bunks and a stove which could be hitched onto a train to enable them to access other areas. Some of them were commissioned war artists in WW1. Their work became very popular and showed 'the true North, strong and free'.

**Glenys Crane**

**Forthcoming talks:**

**4 March** theatre Laraine  
**18 March** zoom Members  
**1 April** theatre Lesley

**Power & Propaganda in the Portraits of Queen Elizabeth I**  
**Showing an item from home for discussion**  
**Belle Epoch Posters**

The Art Appreciation group is currently full.

## Daytime Disco (2)



Our group are still having fun dancing every Tuesday afternoon to music from the fifties, sixties and seventies, in the rehearsal rooms at Bromley Little Theatre. The lights are turned off and disco lights sparkle. The builders are still busy working on

the theatre renovation so we have to use the back door while they are in the courtyard. They carry on working while the disco is on, our music drowns out the sounds of drills and hammers and I think they enjoy music while they work!

We finished the year with a Christmas disco, playing tracks not on repeat in the shops, eg Blue Christmas from Elvis, and Little Saint Nick by the Beach Boys, and afterwards we had a little party in the bar upstairs. Everyone brought food and drink, and when we'd eaten our fill and toasted Christmas with Prosecco, we had a pop quiz. Some questions were easy, eg What was Lulu's first big hit, some proved not so easy, eg Name Tom Jones' first big hit. The winner took home a giant chocolate coin.

The disco has now resumed, and we're looking forward to more fun and exercise in 2026.

**For further details contact Christine:**

**Christine Cavanagh**

# Creative Writing (1)

*Members were asked to come up with an advertising campaign for a new or unusual product.*

You've all heard of the legendary Babel Fish... you know?... in the Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy? A small, yellow leech-like fish that had evolved to feed on brainwave energy received from those around it. If you had one in your ear it would excrete into your mind a telepathic matrix



formed from the thoughts of everyone around you and you could understand everything that was said to you in whatever language was spoken... The little fish was so popular that today they've almost died out and they're very hard to get hold of.

But all is not lost. Because now, using the very latest AI technology, Babel Fish Incorporated has been able to create a sleek high-tech earpiece – the next generation Babel Fish:... we bring you...

## The Amazing BabelPod

Break the Language Barrier with the Ultimate Hi-Tech Companion

Imagine a world where you can travel anywhere, meet anyone, and communicate effortlessly—no more awkward pauses, puzzled looks, or missed opportunities. Whether you're buying a Peugeot

in Paris, ordering a take away in Tokyo, or robbing a bank in Barcelona, the BabelPod ensures you understand—and are understood— instantly.

### WARNING

While the BabelPod promises seamless global communication, there's lots that can go wrong. Nuances, idioms, or cultural references might be lost or misinterpreted, leading to



confusion, unintended offence ...or even war!

There is also the risk of technical glitches or inaccuracies that could result in misunderstandings during crucial conversations. This could lead to serious injury.

Not to be used in diplomatic situations when attempting to negotiate a peace treaty.

Keep away from children – it will drive them mad!

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY

All data passing through the BabelPod remains the property of BabelPod Inc for their use and their use only... all privacy concerns are ignored. BabelPod Inc reserves the right to record and use at their discretion all conversations passing through the BabelPod network.

*Peter Martin*

### The BabelPod Jingle

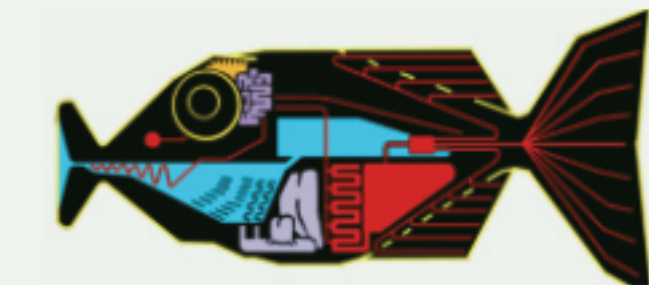
From Bromley to Korea,  
with BabelPod in your ear

From Penge to Samarkand,  
just listen and understand

Just pick it up from the BabelPod stores

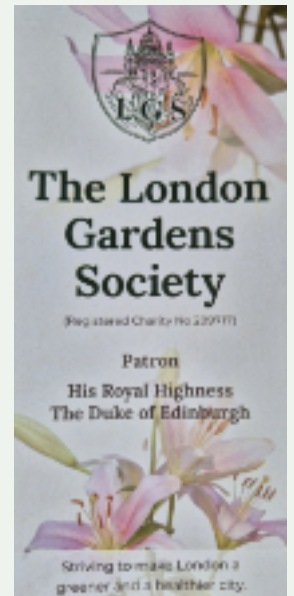
But be careful not to start any wars.

*Peter Martin*



## Gardening - Monthly Talks (4)

In February Andrew Babicz visited us again this time to share his knowledge of The London Gardens Society for which he has been a judge for many years. This charity, which has been established for over 100 years, provides opportunities for individuals and groups to enter their gardens into a competition to be judged on its excellence. The All London Championship has many different classes and is judged in July, with the Awards Ceremony taking place at the Guildhall in London in October. Andrew showed us his amazing photos of previous winners' gardens.



**4 March – Michelle Ernoult – Gardening for Bees**

**1 April – Stephen Harmer – The Story of Plants and Plant Hunters**

Meetings are held at **St. Mark's Church Room, Westmoreland Road, Bromley, at 2.30pm.**  
**A small entrance charge includes tea and biscuits.**  
**NB there is no parking at St Mark's Church.**  
 For further details telephone **Sue Goodger**

## Gardening All Hands Group (4)



In January, we enjoyed a very nice lunch at the George in Hayes, almost taking over the whole place as can be seen from the photos.

Below is our remaining trip schedule. Each trip will be advertised to members for booking at the appropriate time.

**Contact Sandy Boden to go on the member list.**

### Future Trips

Name	Month/Date	Place	Travel
Kay Harbridge	March	Syon Park	Public Transport
Sandy Boden	23rd April	The Oast, Mayfield, Sussex BOOKED	Coach
Jean Fergusson	May	GATTON PARK, Reigate	Coach
Jean Fergusson	9th June	Court Lodge Horton Kirby, Dartford BOOKED	Car Share
Marilyn Hardwick	July	Borde Hill Haywards Heath RH16 1XP	Coach
Donna	August	Wisley	Coach
Sandy Boden	September	West Dean Gardens	Coach
Gladys Donovan	October	Brogdale	Coach
Sandy Boden	November	Planning Meeting	St Marks

## Golf Lessons (5)

Our next session of Golf Lessons starts again on Wednesday 4th March at Chelsfield Golf Centre. These friendly groups are taken by Steve, a Professional at the Centre and are suitable for beginners and improvers.

### u3a Golf dates at Chelsfield

#### Spring 2026

Wed 4 March  
Wed 11 March  
Wed 18 March  
Wed 25 March  
Wed 15 April

#### Texas Scramble

Wed 22 April

#### Summer 2026

Wed 13 May – Drop in  
Wed 3 June  
Wed 10 June  
Wed 17 June  
Wed 24 June  
Wed 1 July  
Wed 8 July

#### Texas Scramble

Wed 15 July



Price £10 per session – max per group 7-8 persons per session.

For further details of sessions and times available please contact Mary Golds

## History of Fashion (5)

We now have two Groups meeting monthly plus occasional outings. The Friday one is in its 3rd year and a Tuesday one started 2026 with a Show & Tell for the old group and an introductory meeting for the new one. Both groups are learning about fashion chronologically and have started with Medieval Fashion.

*Laraine Burr*

### Show and Tell



## Guitar Group (5)



Come and have fun and join our u3a Bromley Guitar Group. We play Baroque, Classical, Folk, Blues, Ragtime and Pop.

**You must be able to read basic music notation.**

We meet every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month.

Time: 2.00 - 4.15pm.

Venue: The Wesley Room,  
Bromley Methodist Church,  
College Road,  
Bromley BR1 3NS.

Please contact Christine Dabrowa for more information

### Medieval Fashion



## Historic Pub Visits (1)



The pubs we visit have special historic interest. They represent an important aspect of London's cultural and built heritage and several are treasures of national stature.

We used the CAMRA 'London's Real Heritage Pubs' book to organise our visits for drinks and lunch from 12 to 2pm.

Our first pub was **The Salisbury** in St Martins Lane. It was very comfortable with stunning interiors and etched and polished glass creating a glittering atmosphere.

Our second visit was **The Olde Bank of England** in Fleet street. An absolutely stunning building with soaring ceilings, intricate chandeliers, marble columns and rich wood panelling. The building operated as the former Bank of England's Law Courts from 1888 to 1975. There is a vintage Routemaster bus in the courtyard.

Our third visit was to **The Cittie of Yorke** in High Holborn with the star attraction being the unique enormous room at the back in the style of a medieval hall. It was rebuilt in 1923-4 as a romantic evocation of Olde England. There is a triangular stove with the flue escaping under the floor.

There are cosy drinking booths and a formidable array of casks, some of enormous size.

For further details contact :

**Susan and Peter**



**Cittie of Yorke**



### Future visits:

- 11th Mar **Blackfriars - 174 Queen Victoria Street -EC4V4EG - close to Blackfriars Station**
- 25th Mar **Argyll Arms - 18 Argyll Street -W1F 7TP close to Oxford Circus**
- 15th Apr **The Lamb and Flag - Covent Garden**
- 29th Apr **Flying Horse -Oxford Street**

## Film Studies (1)



Our film studies class is thriving, we have around ten attendees each week, on zoom, 10 - 11.30am, new members are welcome, no previous knowledge required, only a liking for movies.

We look at film history, different aspects of how to understand a film, all sorts... So we've looked at things like sound, colour, stars, finance, German film of the 20s, Russian film, Italian film of the 40s, British cinema of the 60s and much more! We see lots of clips and have interesting discussions...

**We meet on Wednesdays,  
10.00 - 11.30am.**

**For further details please email John**

## Local Studies (4)

Please note that all our meetings are in the **Whitfield Hall, United Reformed Church, 20, Widmore Road, Bromley, BR1 1RY**. They take place on the **first Tuesday of the month**, running from **10:30 am** until **12:00 pm** at the latest. These are Open Meetings, and all members are welcome.

Please note that there is an admission charge of £3, payable by cash or card.

Forthcoming meetings:

<b>3 March</b>	<b>Allan Goodison</b>	<b>The Woodland Trust</b>
<b>7 April</b>	<b>Siobhan Clarke</b>	<b>The Tower of London</b>
<b>5 May</b>	<b>Peter Martin</b>	<b>Subject to be confirmed</b>
<b>2 June</b>	<b>Ian Bevan</b>	<b>Drury Lane Theatre</b>

**Steve Woods**

For further information, please contact Steve

### Reports on previous meetings:

#### January – The story of Gilbert and Sullivan Nick Dobson *with the assistance of Victor and Alison*

The frequent visiting speaker to many of u3a Bromley's interest groups and General Meetings returned to Local Studies in January, hardly put out by heavy traffic that morning, armed with tech and with two 'assistants.' We knew in advance that he would be bringing 'a singer' with him, but two? He began his talk by describing how the pair met and collaborated on a single project and promptly became a firm partnership. We were treated to a solo from Alison from their first operetta, then Victor sang . . . and then Nick, at which point he showed us that his talents went far beyond just giving interesting talks. The performance of all three continued with audience participation on several occasions!

Between songs, Nick told us how G & S met, and how William Schwenck Gilbert, librettist already famous, was needing a composer and saw a possibility in Arthur Sullivan. Sullivan, less famous than Gilbert, but already a composer in his own right, was somehow able to match Gilbert's often tongue-twisting words to memorable melody, and soon the team became more than just one-time partners. They went on to write fourteen operettas together over twenty-five years, all but one of which was launched in London. Their collaboration ended with an argument over a carpet!

But it was a great talk and entertainment, and a lot of us joined in when invited.

**Steve Woods**

#### February – An illustrated Lecture on the History of the Victorian Music Hall Tom Carradine

u3a Bromley members were "down at the Old Bull and Bush" on 3 February enjoying a fabulous musical



Tom Carradine

interlude with Tom Carradine who made a return visit to tell us about the History of the Music Hall along with piano accompaniment. About 110 members sang along to various medleys of very recognisable songs and enjoyed an absorbing story with photographs of how it all began and why, who the key players were including performers, impresarios, influencers (yes we had them then), male impersonators, song writers or creators (who bought the song rights, so a form of early copyright), people who went on to become cinema stars e.g. Charlie Chaplin, Stan Laurel, as well as how every city had a music hall until well into the 20th Century when other musical entertainment appeared in the form of cinema, radio, gramophone records, TV, etc. "The Good Old Days," a TV Music Hall programme from Leeds Theatre, nicely embraced both mediums from 1953-1983.

Music Hall began in the pubs of the 1830s where men congregated to drink and heard catchy songs performed; funnily enough the more songs there were the more drink was sold. Inspiration for material came from many genres including classical, folk and operetta. The first Halls were in Canterbury, Waterloo, the East End (Wilton's which still exists), Old Kent Rd, etc., until there were thirty-three in London alone. The high-water mark for the Music Hall was the First World War when popular songs included Pack up your Troubles and It's a long way to Tipperary, both of which aided military recruitment. After the War everything changed.....

A super morning's entertainment.  
**Angela Dowling**

## Motorcycle Group (1)



Dear u3a

Well we are past 'bah humbug' time and looking forward to spring. Perhaps a member or member's spouse, friends, children, or whoever might be interested, anyone welcome.

At present we are a merry band of four ageing geezers who should have more sense, but nonetheless, continue to ride motorcycles.

We meet once a month in the nice weather. April - October, and go out for a leisurely ride, mostly in the country, A or B roads... usually within a radius of 60 miles or so... Leaving around 10 am and getting home before

tea. We've been to Kent and Sussex, seen lots of lovely places... We do not ride fast, as we are all quite old and intend to stay that way... Any bike welcome from a Honda 50 to, well, anything!

If you're a biker, it'll come as no surprise to hear that every trip involves plenty of tea, cake, lunch, and if its warm - ice-cream. And friendly old bods yakking about motorbikes.

The days we go are negotiable... usually midweek.

We shall reconvene in April, so if it sounds interesting, or you would like a chat, please contact me:



PS: I'm also the fellow to talk to about the very wonderful u3a film group.. If you're interested in cinema, this is the place to be! Again, ask for details.

## Outings by Public Transport (4)

The Outings for next few months are listed below:

23 Mar **Handel / Hendrix Museum: Cancelled**

23 Apr **Ham House.** A 17<sup>th</sup> century house with gardens set out in the time period. This is a National trust property for which you will need to pay an entrance fee on the day if you are not a member (about £20).

Meet at Bromley South station for a 9:30 train to Victoria (10:10). Meet here outside the Smiths next to Platform 8. A tube to Richmond, followed by a short bus ride and a walk, we will arrive at the House at 11:30am. This is a self guided tour with guides in each room to answer any questions. There is a café for lunch afterwards.

The cost is a £5 donation to the National Trust.

21 May **Freemason's Hall. PLEASE NOTE the CHANGE of DATE.**

Meet at Bromley South station at 9:30am for a train to Victoria, arriving at 10am. We will take the Victoria Line to Green Park, followed by the Piccadilly Line to Covent Garden (10:15). A 10min walk will bring us to the hall with time to spare.

A 90min tour starts at 11am. The cost is £15 (reduced from the previous figure as we have more people joining us). The maximum is 25 and we are already at 18!

14 July **Keston Mosque**

The 320 bus goes there from Bromley, get off at the Keston Mark. I will meet you at that bus stop at 10:15am. Our tour begins at 10:30am. The cost is £10

If you are interested in any of the above, please contact me to book your place.

Do not pay until confirmation of a place has been issued as making refunds is not straightforward.

**PS If you leave me a message on my answer phone, please give your full name and the phone number as single digits – to give me time to write it down!!**

# Photography (5)

We have recently revised our programme of in-person and online meetings to reflect the wide and varied interest in photography our members have.

Our monthly gatherings at Oakley House (on Bromley Common) remain the anchor of our calendar. In addition, we hold Zoom sessions three times a month, focused on editing photos, discussing photography as art, or simply sharing memories and interests through photos socially.

Our monthly in-person meetings usually include a presentation by a member of their own photographs, or a talk about a famous photographer or photographic topic, followed by a session in which we discuss and evaluate images – whether our own or those of other photographers seen online. Recent sessions have looked at composition in photography and a planned future presentation will focus on the work of some Norwegian photographers.

We have an interest in new developments in photography and, alongside traditional cameras and techniques, we look at smartphones, apps, and even AI (Artificial Intelligence).

For example, we have sessions planned about editing photos using smartphone apps and even solely using AI.

Our Zoom meetings often follow a theme - such as Landscapes, Architecture, or Black and White. A recent online meeting included members' photographs on the theme of Patterns and Textures: some of those are shown below.

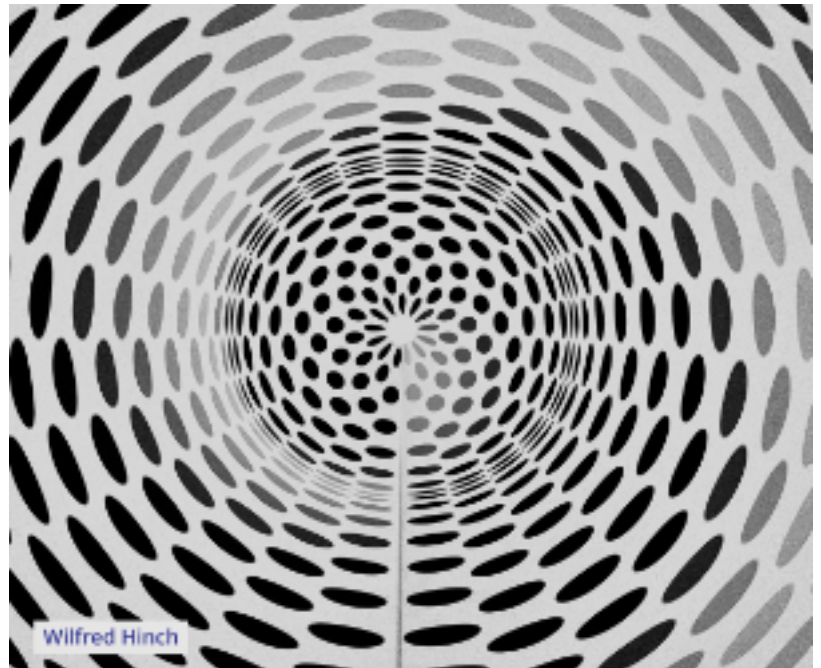
New members are always welcome. Our group details on Beacon give more information. If you are interested, you are very welcome to come along to a Monday morning meeting (first Monday of the month 10 am - 12 noon at Oakley House on Bromley Common) or to join one of our Zoom sessions.

Steve Simmonds

Norman Watson



David Massey



Wilfred Hinch



David Millier



Norman Watson

## Poetry Discussion Group (4)

We discuss a couple of poems, reading closely to examine how writers create meaning & produce an effect on the reader.

The group leader will provide the poems, ranging over a wide selection of writers, topics and periods. You can also suggest poems or writers you want. The first part of the meeting will involve a close reading of a poem, giving you the chance to examine particular aspects on your own, and then feed back to the group in a discussion, supporting your ideas with close reference to the text. I encourage people to develop their own interpretations. These discussions can broaden out more generally to subjects raised by the poem. We then have a break for tea and biscuits. After that we have a less formal reading and discussion of another poem.

We meet at 3 p.m. at the group leader's house near Beckenham town centre on the second Thursday of the month.

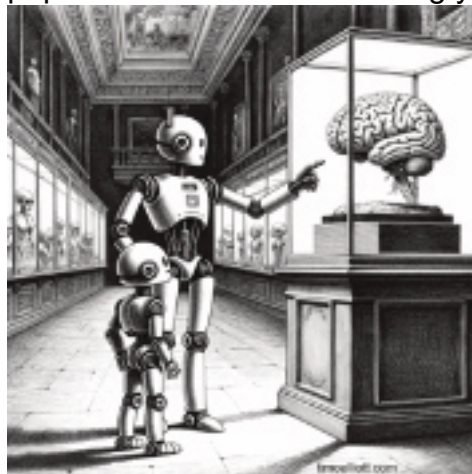
**Spaces are available in this group.**

If you are interested, please contact Adele Radelat.

## Psychology (3) – Intelligence

If you have ever taken an intelligence test you will undoubtedly have come out with a score of between 50 and 150. Popular intelligence tests are trialled on large numbers of people and the scores standardised to produce an *average* score of **100**. Around 70% of the population will score between 85-115 – only one person in a thousand will score above 145. This is the approximate level at which you might qualify to join Mensa.

IQ tests are designed to measure some particular types of mental ability and there is some evidence to show that people who score highly often do so across a range of different sorts of questions. But there are a range of human abilities that they cannot, and do not attempt to, measure. Howard Gardener came up with a theory of *Multiple Intelligences* in which he identified eight different types of intelligence: (i) Linguistic – verbal meaning and fluency. (ii) Spatial –



"And that is the original processor!"

visualising the world in three dimensions. (iii) Logical/mathematical – quantifying things; inductive, numerical and systematic reasoning. (iv) Musical – discerning sounds, their pitch, tone, rhythm and timbre. (v) Body-kinaesthetic – co-ordinating your mind and body; skillful fine and gross motor movement. (vi) Naturalist – understanding living things and reading nature. (vii) Interpersonal – understanding and interacting with other people. (viii) Intrapersonal – understanding yourself, self-insight.

The last two equate with what is sometimes called *Emotional Intelligence* EQ, a much underrated form of intelligence relating to Self-awareness, Self-regulation, Motivation, Empathy and Social skills. People with a high EQ are adaptable, resilient, form strong relationships and tend to be happier than those without.

**Carole Blacher**

***The Psychology group is currently full and not adding members to the waiting list. However, if anyone is interested in starting a new one, please contact me : I would be happy to share resources. Carole Blacher***

## Rambles (2)



The path of the Greenwich Meridian where it crosses the north bank of the Thames at Blackwall

These are our walks for March and April 2026, a mixture of London, suburban, and country. Don't forget that our "Pathways" circular enables you to receive last minute information of changes, additions, or cancellations. Email me if you need to join the distribution list; similarly email me if you wish to be removed from the list.

For any new rambles, full information will be in our circular "Pathways", but guidance in brief is:-

Attendees are responsible for their own **safety** both in country & town, and their own fitness to complete the walk; Use suitable **Footwear** and **Dress** for the weather, plus a **drink**; No dogs please.

**New Walk Leaders are always wanted** even just for an occasional walk a year, so that we can offer more walks; assistance with planning or navigation is available if wanted.

### The Walks

**NB On Central London walks**, numbers are limited so **contact the Walk Leader to book your place**, and **if booking by email, ensure your booking is confirmed by them**. Other Suburban and Country walks do not need to be booked – just turn up on the day.

### **Fri. 13 March 2026 – Lloyd Park Circular via the Addington Hills**

Meet to depart at 10.45 from Lloyd Park Lounge Café (<https://what3words.com/drill.mixer.pipe>) for an approx. 5 mile walk through mixed terrain with one climb to the Addington Hills viewpoint; toilets at café. Car Parks are at the Tram Stop (free for max 3 hours with a ticket) and at the junction of Coombe Lane and Oaks Road opposite Coombe Wood Gardens (<https://what3words.com/assume.pays.frock>).

Lloyd Park can be reached by car, or using the Tram:- from Addington Village Interchange (bus 314 from Bromley or 353 from Orpington); from Beckenham Junction or Elmers End, changing at Sandilands; 119 bus to Sandilands and 1 stop on the Tram to Lloyd Park.

**Leader:** Robin Burnhams

### **Wed. 18 March 2026 – Waterloo to Vauxhall**

Meet at 10.45am at Waterloo Main Line Station Platform 24 for a 3 mile walk. There are 28 points of interest with toilets at the start and end.

**NB: Contact the Walk Leader to book your place.**  
Please book by email if at all possible.

**Leader:** Graham Haynes –

### **Thur. 26 March 2026 – Circular walk around Bloomsbury**

Meet at 10.45 outside Euston Underground station by the orange benches and tables. We will see many buildings of historical interest as well as an Auto Icon.

**NB: Contact the Walk Leader to book your place.**

**Leader:** Marie Blakeley –

### **Thur. 02 April 2026 – Farnborough circular**

Meet at 10.30 on Farnborough High Street at junction of Church Road for a 4.5 mile walk in the Farnborough area through fields, lanes and woodland. Lunch available in the village cafe or pub.

Car parking in the village roads or 358 bus from Bromley.

**Leader:** Robin Burnhams

### **Wed. 08 April 2026 – Waterloo to Vauxhall (repeat)**

Meet at 10.45am at Waterloo Main Line Station Platform 24 for a 3 mile walk. There are 28 points of interest with toilets at the start and end.

**NB: Contact the Walk Leader to book your place.**

Please book by email if at all possible.

**Leader:** Graham Haynes –

### **Fri. 17 April 2026 – "Pop Goes the Weasel"**

Meet at 11am at Liverpool Street Station at the bottom of escalators to Bishopsgate.

A linear walk to the Angel Islington via Finsbury Circus.

"Half a pound of Tuppenny rice, Bunn Hill Fields, City Road Basin, Mix it up and make it nice". 3 Miles, pubs and cafés at end of walk.

**NB: Contact the Walk Leader to book your place.**

**Leader:** Alan Canham

### **Thur. 23 April 2026 – Down the Strand & Up the Embankment**

Meet at 10:45 in Charing Cross Station by platform four, for a two mile walk capturing points of interest of Dukes, hotels, palaces, architecture, alleys, pubs, churches, engineering, art, gardens and monuments.

**NB: Contact the Walk Leader to book your place.**

**Leader:** Brian Benson

### **Thur. 07 May 2026 – Down the Strand & Up the Embankment (repeat)**

Meet at 10:45 in Charing Cross Station by platform four, for a two mile walk capturing points of interest of Dukes, hotels, palaces, architecture, alleys, pubs, churches, engineering, art, gardens and monuments.

**NB: Contact the Walk Leader to book your place.**

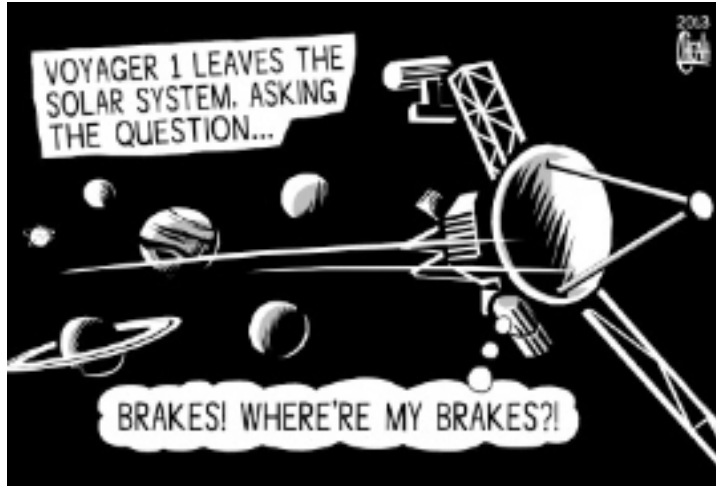
**Leader:** Brian Benson

**Peter Wood – Rambles Group Co-ordinator**

## Science & Technology (5) Voyagers 1 & 2 space probes

The January presentation provided an overview of the objectives and significant findings from the Voyager 1 and Voyager 2 missions. These identical space probes, launched in 1977, continue to operate successfully nearly five decades later.

The primary goal of the Voyager missions was to study the gas giants—Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune—and subsequently exit the solar system to investigate the characteristics of interstellar space. Each probe carried the well-known golden records, which contain messages and encoded images from Earth intended for any potential extraterrestrial recipients.



The mission capitalised on a rare planetary alignment of the gas giants, enabling the spacecraft to utilise gravity assist manoeuvres. This technique allowed each probe to pass by successive planets, increasing their velocity and propelling them out of the solar system. Such an

alignment will not recur until 2150, underscoring the importance of launching two identical probes as a contingency measure.

Throughout their journey, the Voyagers made numerous scientific contributions, including analysis of atmospheric compositions, the discovery of a surprising hexagonal weather system at Saturn's north pole, observation of winds reaching 1,000 miles per hour on Neptune, and documentation of Uranus's highly tilted axis.

In 2012, Voyager 1, 11 billion miles from Earth, crossed the Heliopause—the boundary between the solar system and interstellar space—where the interstellar wind and solar wind pressures are balanced, causing their particles to interact. Voyager 1 detected a plasma wall with a temperature of 40,000°C, which serves as part of the protective barrier shielding Earth from interstellar wind.

**Christopher Lawson**

## Social Studies (4) Autumn Term 2025

**12th Sept** - This was a planning meeting with the committee seeking the views of what the members would like to discuss over the coming year.

**26th Sept** - "Who Holds the Power", presented by Keith. This asked Do the 'democracies' really give power to the people or if power is held by other vested interests? Largely the latter seemed to be the consensus

**10th Oct** - "Perspectives on Secondary Education". Mike and Juliet gave an account of their experiences of teaching in the Secondary Sector for many years. They highlighted the loss of relevant Vocational Education and changes to the curriculum that would help to motivate today's students

**24th Oct** - "Social Change". Tony entertained us with a swift ride through a range of social changes which have taken place over our lifetimes in all aspects of society. He covered causes and drivers of change and mentioned key events worldwide and in the UK. Political events and developments featured and even changes in youth sub-culture. A real tour de force!

**7th Nov** - "The Purpose of Higher Education". Sue, a guest speaker from Imperial College, traced the emergence of early Universities and who had access to them. She led us through the history of various Education Acts, showing how Government perceptions of the purpose of HE have changed over time

**21st Nov** - "The Bonds Markets". Paul gave an interesting and entertaining talk on what was potentially a very 'dry' topic. He explained what Bond Markets are, their importance to the economy and why Politicians take so much notice of them. We are all affected by the Bond Markets through our Mortgages, Pension Annuities, Savings Rates, Welfare & Defence spending and Public Services

**5th Dec** - "The Social Impact of AI" Phil, having worked in this field, gave us an overview of what AI (or 'machine learning') is and what it is capable of doing for us across a variety of contexts. He also highlighted potential the dangers of its use for nefarious purposes

**Colin Peatfield**

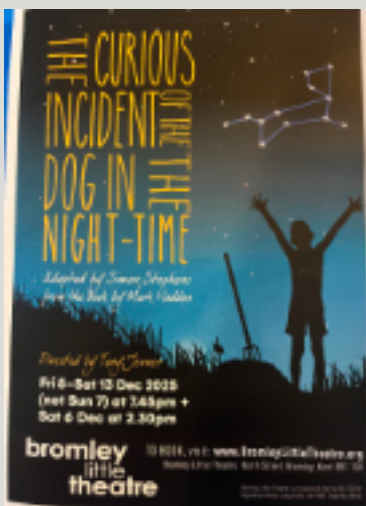
## Theatre Group (2)

The group meets at Bromley Little Theatre in North Street, Bromley on the second Thursday afternoon of the month at 2.15pm for a 2.30pm start. We have a varied programme of speakers each month and visits and outings to local and West End Theatres as well as visits to other places of theatrical interest. Payment for meetings is £10 to cover the meetings at Bromley Little Theatre. Payment can be made by BACS as long as Mary Garside is notified or by cash at a meeting. One off guest visits are £2 per meeting. We are pleased to be developing our links with **Bromley Little Theatre** and attend many of their excellent productions. Booking in advance for meetings is helpful. We attend monthly Saturday matinees at **Bromley Little Theatre**, all welcome. Please let Mary Garside know if you would like to receive emails about trips and outings and our meetings or have any other queries about the group.

### Mary Garside

- 12 Mar Nick Dobson: Round and about with Boz
- 9 Apr Social Meeting at Bromley Little Theatre
- 14 May Tony Harris: My Life in the Theatre and TV
- 11 Jun Susan Elkin
- 9 Jul Kate Boyle Annual walk : Tour de Penge
- 16 Jul Social Meeting at Bromley Little Theatre

### THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME Bromley Little Theatre Saturday 6 December 2025



Adapted for the stage from a book by Mark Haddon this is the account of a 15 year old autistic boy's endeavour to deduce who had killed a neighbour's dog, the story being told from the boy's point of view.

My 31 year old autistic grandson was with me at the performance so although Josh Clarkson's interpretation of a 15 year old on the ASD spectrum seemed very authentic to me, it was invaluable to have his opinion. He

thoroughly enjoyed it and found it very realistic as did another autistic person in the audience. The performances of the rest of the cast were excellent as always and they performed multiple parts as they often do.

A relatively new member of our group had never been to a BLT show before and as the weather was bad she thought twice about bothering to go but was glad she did. She was amazed at the high standard of acting and said it was as good as when she had seen the production in the West End! High praise indeed. The Theatre Group had 50 seats for this matinee performance and as always the matinee was fully booked.

Pat Ward

## Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday



Congratulations to Theatre Group member Heather Donovan who reached her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on 3<sup>rd</sup> February. Heather still attends our meetings and comes with a friend on the bus.

### JUST FOR ONE DAY – THE LIVE AID MUSICAL Shaftesbury Theatre, London Wednesday 17 December 2025



The first half gave us the story of the creation of the successful charity single "Do they know it's Christmas" and the second half continued with the story of the Live Aid concert. What a treat it was!

In late 1984, Bob Geldof saw the harrowing BBC report about the starving people in Ethiopia and was inspired to act. Colleagues in the music industry joined together to record the song under the name Band Aid, giving their time for free. The record was released and became the Christmas number one in 1984 raising millions of pounds for famine relief.

The audience heard how not all children could be saved as there was not sufficient resources to go round. We also heard how aid was held up in Ethiopia due to corruption.

The 1985 Live Aid concert was then planned to raise money and awareness of the tragedy of famine. Bob Geldof put together a concert of music legends including Queen, David Bowie, Paul McCartney, Elton John amongst others with the concert at Wembley Stadium on 13 July 1985 attended by the then Prince Charles and Princess Diana. There was a simultaneous concert in Philadelphia. The concert was broadcast reaching a massive global audience. A staggering amount of money was raised for the cause.

The show was powerful and thought provoking and the singing and dancing wonderful. The performance ended with the audience giving the cast a standing ovation.

Many thanks to Mary for organising the tickets which gave all of us such an entertaining afternoon.

Ann Wright

## Theatre Group (2)

### THE HAUNTING Bromley Little Theatre 10 January 2026

Whilst this was written by a modern playwright, Hugh Janes has drawn on Charles Dickens ghost stories for inspiration. I for one am pleased he did because I love a “things that go bump in the night” piece of theatre. Directed by a master of the genre, from the moment the house lights go down we are treated to a piercing scream, atmospheric lighting, and music that sets the scene. The action takes place in the library of a country house



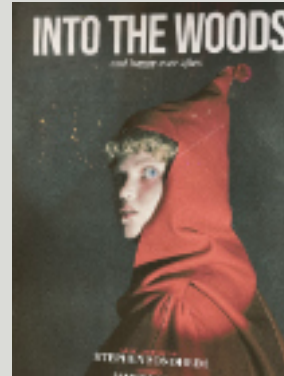
on the moors and whilst I would have liked some attempt at panelling and more substantial doors and bookcases, I understood that this had to be a neutral space in which to re-enact the story of good versus evil in the “upstairs, downstairs” world of a Victorian country gentleman, and a servant of youth and beauty whom he defiles. Though a story told countless times, this has a twist in the tale and the macabre end to the young women is truly horrifying. It is her ghost of course that haunts this house and the lighting was the most effective I’ve ever seen in the non-professional theatre. We were treated to an

apparition hovering in the tree outside the French windows and in the room, dressed in a white wedding dress suitable for the period, as indeed were the costumes of the two men. A two-hander has its own challenges and the younger of the two acquitted himself very well, his clear voice and diction perfectly attuned to the period and his age. The older actor was less sure of himself, but they worked well together. However for me the stars were the many books, the lighting, wonderfully dim and shadowy, the sound effects, and the glorious music composed especially for BLT.

**Nikki Packham**

### INTO THE WOODS Bridge Theatre Thursday 29 January 2026

40 people from the Theatre Group went to see “Into the Woods” by Stephen Sondheim. The Bridge Theatre’s production is outstanding: the sets are slick, the actors’ words can be heard throughout, each



character has a chance to shine and they do, the music is skilfully played, the costumes are stunning and the lighting and special effects are atmospheric.

I have seen one or two amateur productions and had great difficulty understanding the plot. Having now seen an excellent professional production I understand why.

There are so many ideas and so much content that I cannot cover it all here.

The story is in two parts. The first is a witty and ironic gallop, weaving a web of wishes, actions and consequences of a set of characters from the Brothers Grimm. They are children’s stories (Cinderella, Rapunzel, Little Red Riding Hood and Jack and the Beanstalk among them) which have a happy ending. The second is a take on how these stories might play out in the real world. It begins with the widow of the giant in Jack and the Beanstalk coming to seek revenge. It is still witty but tense after this with anxiety, blame, infidelity and further deaths.

It is at times difficult to follow because there is so much content but it is well worth a visit. It is brilliantly clever and extremely moving.

**Kate Wilcox**

### TWELFTH NIGHT The Barbican Tuesday 13 January 2026

This RSC production was glorious. Of course, every director wants to bring something new to a timeless work and in this case, it was done by enhancing the role of the Fool, Feste, who joked, pantomime fashion, with the audience across the production (with comments such as: ‘Oh well, we got a better reaction to *that one* in Stratford’) and throwing balls back and forth with people in the front row. Another novel feature was Curio as organist, for much of the play with his back to us, and in 1950s tatty Fair Isle cardigan and comb-over hair (why like this who knows, but it worked!) providing brilliant moments through sham intoxication, sound effects, spot-on timing and just the right organ tone at just the right moment.

None of these shenanigans seemed out of place. And despite this playing around, the dialogue was true. None of Shakespeare’s glorious words were lost. One forgets just how many now commonplace sayings came from his pen, such as, from Twelfth Night, ‘If music be the food of love, play on’ and ‘Some are born great, some



achieve greatness and some have greatness thrust upon them’.

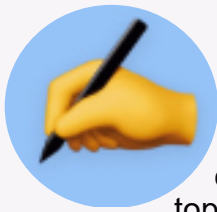
When the mood required serious consideration, it was there in full measure. It brought a tear to the eye when Viola realised that her twin brother Sebastian was still alive and they met again (both thought the other lost at sea). Similarly, when the tragi-comedic character Malvolio realised that he had been made a fool of by the rumbustious Sir Toby Belch, he came to the front of the stage pointing malevolently at the audience and cursing each and every one of us for laughing at him. We all felt it. You could have heard a pin drop.

The play also came across as very fresh and thoroughly modern, not least because of its gently gender-bending themes. Olivia falls in love with Viola, disguised as a male, and Orsino is also guiltily attracted to the same camouflaged Viola. But it all works out fine when Olivia ends up with Viola’s identical but

male twin Sebastian and Orsino and Viola pair up after she reveals her true gender.

What a lovely afternoon out. Thank you RSC!

**Clive Nash**



## The Wordsmiths (2)

We have fun writing in a relaxed environment and discuss and comment on each other's written work on various topics chosen as a group. If you would like to take up writing as a hobby, write short stories, or work on your writing style or even write that novel that you always wanted to, then this is the group to join.

Work or write at your own pace and develop your skills as a narrator or support others in the group. If you already have good writing abilities but would like to have other people critique your work then this would be the perfect opportunity.

A few pieces of writing by some members of our group have already been published in the *u3a Bromley* Newsletter!

The group meets on the last Tuesday of every month from 10.00am - 12.00 noon, meeting at The Richmal Crompton Pub opposite Bromley Police Station. And we have a jolly good time!

**We have a couple of spaces vacant.**

If you would like to find out more about this group please contact Shirley Corney:



*There once was a group of Wordsmiths, my friend,  
Whose scribbles would twist and would bend  
They wrote with such flair,  
Made up bits here and there  
And always met in a pub every month-end.*

## Wine Enjoyment (2)



Everyone enjoyed an exciting journey of discovery at our last gathering. We are a friendly group but without the sniffers, garglers, and pontificators who need to think they are an expert.

We concentrated on Greek wines. Most of these are utterly unknown, yet the Greeks have had over 3000 years to get things right. They know a thing or two about getting the best out of a hot climate. They drink the best themselves!!! Our group should discover some real bargains here as most of our generation have horrid memories

of slop-in-a-glass served up with Greek food. Not these wines - actually some of the best affordable cabernet-sauvignon on the planet also comes from Greece!

In our seventh year we still enjoy ourselves and have fun. That is why we have this group title. We are open to all but currently have a waiting list as numbers must be limited by the size of our room. Why did you pass by these in the supermarket?

Joe Weiss (group leader)