

Sidcup u3a June Newsletter

1 message

Trevor Ford via Sidcup u3a <noreply@u3abeacon.org.uk>
 Reply-To: Trevor Ford <trevorford435@gmail.com>
 To: Trevor Ford <trevorford435@gmail.com>

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St.Lawrence Church Hall monthly meetings

June 19th	Paul Hounsell paulhounsell64@outlook.com	Purfleet Heritage Centre - gunpowder and the military since the 1760s
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New on the [website](#) this month:-

- • Book Group : review “Old Herbaceous” : May
- • Cards : image of new technique
- • Family History : update
- • Freedom Pass; report & photos : Golders Hill, May
- • Local History : report & photos : Horizon 22, May
- • Parks & Gardens report & photos : Kensington Gardens, May
- • Ramblers 2 : report & photos : Shuttle Riverway, May
- • Ramblers 3 : report & photos : Birchwood, etc. May

Groups round-up

New Group: Country Houses, Castles & Cathedrals: leader Val Gosden

Using DVDs we can ‘visit’ these places whilst sitting in comfort at home. We will be meeting on the 4th Wednesday of each month, 2-4 pm. The first meeting will be 25th June.

Art Appreciation: leader Val Gosden

The five paintings we saw in May were all painted at the turn of the 20th century. Matisse (The Joy of Life) and Munch (The Scream) were familiar names to us, but not so Egon Schiele, whose painting was entitled ‘The Family’. The second two paintings came under the title ‘Art in

Time of War'. Picasso's 'Guernica' depicted some of the horrors and suffering in time of war. By contrast there were many paintings of water lilies by Monet, and we could see how they were displayed in several connecting rooms in the Musée de L'Orangerie, Paris.

Book Group: leader Kate Berry

I chose Old Herbaceous by Reg Arkell, a simple tale of a bygone age. Bert Pinnegar, an misfit orphan, loves flowers and is offered a gardening job by the kind Lady of The Manor. Rising to become Head Gardener and respected County Show judge. We all loved this heartwarming book, and Jan gave it her first 10!

Family History: leader Kate Berry

At our May meeting we welcomed Cliff, a new member to the group.

We discussed the new format of the Family Search website. This is a free worldwide genealogy site. It has had several changes over the years, and I think the format from 12 years or so ago was the best one! Why do websites feel the need to keep "improving"?

Local History: leader Lynn Plumer

Our Local History visit this month was to Horizon 22 which is the second tallest building in London (after The Shard) but has the highest free viewing platform.

The lift took us to the 58th floor in 41 seconds and the viewing platform offered a 300 degree view of London. It was a bright sunny day so apart from a bit of haze we had an excellent view and all spent some time trying to work out what we were looking at.

Everyone agreed this had been a worthwhile visit, especially as it was free.



Parks & Gardens: leaders Rinka Halliday and Jill Bryant

Twelve of us caught the underground to Lancaster Gate - Kensington Gardens. Had a lovely walk-through the royal park viewing the Italian Gardens/fountains, Peter Pan statue and Diana Memorial fountain in Hyde Park. Caught bus back to Charing Cross and home.

Julie Flynn

This outing coincided with Chelsea week. Rinka and Karen came home via the King's Road – this was a florist's shop decorated for the occasion – it attained a silver medal.



Pot Pourri: Leader Pat Laughton

This month's outing to the Wallace Collection was led by Jill Bryant, and to the delight of those who went, had a chance encounter meeting Fiona Bruce who was visiting at the same time.

Quilling: leader Val Gosden



A new technique was used to create this card.

Ramblers 2: Leader Helen Salmon

Shuttle Riverway Walk from Sidcup to Bexley Woods – 27 May 2025

A very wet but valiant group of walkers.

Ramblers3: Leader Trevor Ford

Circular six mile walk from Birchwood Park Golf Club, led by Sandra Applegate.

Ten members of ramblers 3 walked from Birchwood golf club. Six miles through farms and wooded footpaths. We passed through Rowhill Private Estate and touched the edges of Joydens Wood, Wilmington and Hextable. We were very lucky with the weather, the sun shone, and we finished the day with a lovely meal at the golf club around a circular table for ten.



National & Regional

- [National Friends Newsletter link](#)
- [London Region Events, including walks & talks](#)

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trevorford435@gmail.com