

# Watford Central

## U3A

Learn Laugh Live

Volume 14, Issue 11 - November 2025

[www.u3asites.org.uk/watford-central](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/watford-central)

### Hello Everyone,

Welcome to the newsletter for November. As I write this today, we have a storm named Benjamin howling outside and there are leaves bowling along in the rain. Even our neighbour's flag has almost flown off the flag-pole. I don't know why, but looking at the weather, I got to thinking of the rhyme about the months and the weather. January brings the snow etc and we had to rush off to find it as trying to remember it was most annoying. Then I had a thought about another poem - The cold wind doth blow and we shall have snow and what will the robin do then, poor thing.... Looking things up was much better than doing the washing up.

There are still lots of things to do before the end of the year and we are also looking forward to next year and thinking about more places to visit. Looking back on past visits we have had such a wide variety of interesting and unusual locations. If you haven't tried one out do come; we often go by public transport on a pay as you go basis and we always take our bus passes. The visits are open to everyone and are outlined in the newsletter.

I was looking at the Watford Palace Theatre website and I was very pleased to see that, in between all the descriptions for one-night performances, there are a couple for plays which will have more than one performance. We shall be watching out for those in the coming months and taking ourselves off to the matinee performances. Hooray!

With bonfire night coming very soon and if you are a lover of fireworks, I hope you are able to enjoy the Bonfire night celebrations somewhere. Cassiobury Park has their display on the 1<sup>st</sup> November this year. The proceedings begin at 6 p.m. with music etc and the fireworks begin at 7.30 p.m. If you have pets and you prefer to stay at home Classic FM has special music for you and your pets, the information says: *Calm your pet with our purr-fectly peaceful playlist of pieces, specially designed to help your four-legged friends – and you – relax. Classical music can have a wonderful, calming effect on animals, and our selection may be particularly beneficial during fireworks season.*



I will look forward to seeing you on the 6<sup>th</sup> November at our next monthly meeting.

With best wishes, Sally

**The next monthly meeting of Watford Central u3a will be on  
Thursday, 6th November 2025 at 2.00pm**

**at the Ex-Services Club, 12-14 St Albans Road, Watford WD17 1BN**

**Instead of an outside speaker, Lynda Bullock and Sue Ettridge will be recalling how well our Watford Central u3a branch has developed in the past few years.**

**Let's see if some of the photos and information they will be showing us, contained in our Newsletters going back to before we had the COVID crisis and lockdown, are able to bring back some memories.**

## **Interest Days Out** Leader: **Sandra Kay**

Our Trip to Trinity Bouy Wharf turned out to be more like a Mystery Tour due to there being problems on the Northern Line which meant we had to change our route getting to the Wharf, we had a lot more walking and a trip on the Elizabeth Line but we were okay on our return. But everyone actually enjoyed it, we saw parts of London we would never usually see!!

Trinity Bouy Wharf is a different experience altogether. The Lighthouse was built in 1864, but never used as an actual lighthouse . It was really an experiment and used by Michael Faraday to develop lighting equipment for the Trinity Lighthouses, Lightships and Bouys. The area is classed as a Creative Quarter, Sculpture Park and Container City. It was very interesting and a bit different, we also had lovely weather.



### **For our trip to the National Army Museum on Tuesday 18th November,**

please meet at Watford Junction at 09:40am for the 10:02am train to Euston. We will then take the Victoria Line to Victoria and then the District Line to Sloane Square. It's then a 14 minute walk to the museum.

We can go to the Chelsea Hospital for lunch, or use the cafe at the museum.



**Yellow Envelopes**

**Please remember to carry your up-to-date medical details with you if you're out and about with u3a.**

**It's not compulsory but a good idea to have. If you need a new form or envelope we have plenty of both.**

## **Walking Group** Leader: **Jenny**

The next walk on Friday, 28 November will be a circular walk from Leavesden Country Park. Meet at Watford Junction in time to catch the 10.26 am number 20 bus towards Hemel Hempstead. I shall be on the bus as I shall catch it near my home. Otherwise you can make your own way by car and meet us in the car park at approximately 11.00 am. We shall walk for about an hour or two miles and then go to the cafe in the park for refreshments before getting the bus back to Watford.

The usual signing up sheet will be available at the next main meeting, otherwise phone or text me if you would like to join our friendly group.

New walkers will be very welcome.

### **Our walk from Bedmond to Abbots Langley**



## Lunch Group

**Leader: Sally Macaulay**

Lunch Group this month is on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November** and, I am sorry, but all the places have been taken and there is a waiting list. I have tried to get more places but without success so far. We have to order food in advance but at the present they have not been able to send the menu. I will have it by the next meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> November so choices can be made and pay at the same time. The cost is £14. **If you have a place but find you can't come, please let me know as soon as possible so I can contact the next person on the list.**

**December's lunch will be our Christmas lunch on 8<sup>th</sup> December.** There are still six places left so, if you haven't yet sent in your order, the November meeting will be the last opportunity. I have to send the information to Sara at Oddfellows the very next day.

## Theatre Visits

**Leader: Sally Macaulay**

**It's PANTO time!** This year the panto at Watford Palace Theatre is **Jack and the Beanstalk.**

**Date: Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> December 2025 at 1 p.m.**

This is the blurb on the Palace website: *Ready the bean poles and brace for magic! Full of songs you know and love, a growbag packed with plant-based humour and the best cow this side of the gap, it's panto time again at the Palace!*

*Featuring the voice of Stephen Fry as the blustering Giant, the magical and clumsy Fairy 'Nuff, misguided Goosey, Baddun Dame Judy Henchman, the well-clever badger Smart Simone and back for his 13th year, Watford's favourite Dame Terence Frisch This promises to be a Gardener's World of wonder and amazement.*

It also says that this is a Silver Performance but I cannot find anywhere on the website that explains what that means, we shall have to wait and see.

**Ticket Price £31.50** There will be a sign-up sheet at the meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> November

## Remembrance Sunday, Sunday 10 November 2025

**St Mary's Church, Church Street**

10.30am service, including two minutes silence at 11am.

**Watford Town Hall, Rickmansworth Road**

2.45pm parade led by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire from St Mary's Church up to the Peace Memorial

**Peace Memorial - Service at 3pm.**



**At 3pm the Royal British Legion and other organisations will lay wreaths at Watford's Peace Memorial outside the Town Hall.**

## Watford Repair Cafe at St Mary's Church

Facebook post from  
Councillor Ian Stotesbury

Still buzzing from the inaugural [Watford Repair Cafe](#) - great to see so many, varied, items repaired and restored! Thanks so much to all the volunteers who made the day such a success and [St Mary's Watford](#) for hosting! The cafe will be held every month on the second Saturday, 10am-1pm!



### Memories

When everyone knew the first name of the postman, milkman, policeman, coalman and the butcher...



### **What's Your Story?** Leader: **Sue Ettridge**

On Wednesday, 26th November, we have gathered some varied and interesting material relating to shopping/housekeeping/general living habits over the past 50 years. This will be included in our discussion about how we have coped with the ups and downs of life over the years.

### **Bushey Station in 1999** (Courtesy of Bushey Museum)

When I moved to Watford in 1992, this was the station I used going back and forth from work. It's quaintness gave me a feeling of warmth and homeliness each evening, far from the hustle and bustle of Euston from where I left for Watford. (Sue)



### Celebrating 100 years of Watford Met Line Station!!

On Sunday 2 November 2025, from 10:30am to 3pm, the passenger waiting room at Watford Underground Station will be transformed into a celebration of the town's rail history and its role in shaping modern Watford

Step back in time to discover how the arrival of the Metropolitan line connected communities, spurred growth, and inspired generations of commuters and residents alike.

### **Event details**

**Watford Underground Station  
Passenger Waiting Room  
Sunday 2 November 2025**

**10:30am – 3pm**

**Free entry (booking required for station tours)**

**01923 232297**

**[museum@watford.gov.uk](mailto:museum@watford.gov.uk)**

This free, family-friendly event offers something for everyone, from railway enthusiasts and local history lovers to families looking for a fun and informative day out.