



CHESHUNT u3a

Registered Charity No. 1150779

MEETING THURSDAY 26th March 2026

Today's speaker will be Andy Smith on *Wartime and Romance*. A bionic bard who entertains. Although war is a grim business, romance and British humour survive.

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Next month's meeting will be on Thursday 23rd April 2026 when the speaker will be Tony Tutton on *My Life in Music, Coronation to Coronation*.



The revitalised Short Walks Group in the park / photo by Stewart Wagstaff

**Cheshunt u3a A.G.M. to be held on Thursday
23rd April 2026. See pages 3 and 22.**

CHESHUNT u3a MONTHLY MEETINGS

Monthly meetings will usually be held on the **fourth Thursday** of each month at **1.30pm** at the LAURA TROTT CENTRE, Grundy Park, 44 Windmill Lane, Cheshunt EN8 9AJ.

Please note the doors to the big sports hall for the u3a meeting will not open until 1.30pm for registration and perusing the group tables, book and jigsaw puzzle stalls and refreshments.

New style card   from April 2026.

Please bring your membership card to register at the entrance.
Meeting commences at 2.30pm.

VISITORS

A Temporary Membership Fee of £2.00 is charged to visitors and a dated receipt will be given. This confers all the advantages of Cheshunt u3a membership, including insurance for that month only, during which time a group activity can be joined if there is room, on production of the receipt and payment of any group attendance fee.

P PARKING PERMITS - LAURA TROTT LEISURE CENTRE - MONTHLY MEETINGS - 23rd April 2026 - 31st March 2027

Permits for April 2026 to 31st March 2027 are available for collection at various tables at the regular monthly meetings, **excluding the December meeting.**

RAFFLE

Splash your cash on our monthly raffle. You have to be present at the meeting to claim your prize.



REFRESHMENTS TABLE

Tea, coffee and biscuits are available until **2.15pm** during the main monthly meeting.



SAFETY NOTICE

Following an accident at a meeting, we would remind members to be very careful when carrying hot drinks.

*** Cheshunt u3a AGM 23rd April 2026 ***

At the meeting on 23rd April we will be holding our 15th AGM which will start at 2.15pm prior to the raffle and guest speaker.

The AGM is an opportunity for members to raise questions with the committee about the way our u3a operates.

Any questions for the AGM or nominations for new committee members (proposed and seconded) should be submitted to: cheshuntu3asec@yahoo.com on or before 9th April 2026. Nomination forms available at the Information Table today.

See page 22 for the AGM Agenda.



CHESHUNT u3a WEBSITE

Our website address is <https://cheshunt.u3asite.uk>

On mobiles, **tap** on “**Menu**” to view the pages of the website.

On the **Menu** screen, **tap** on **Groups, Monthly Programme, Monthly Meetings** etc. to view the information on our site.

Find this Programme and forthcoming Events on our Website.

Please send any u3a group/activity photographs or content for the website via the email address cheshuntu3aweb@gmail.com or to the Website Co-ordinator via the ‘Contact’ page on the Website.

This programme is normally available on the website about three days before the monthly meeting.

GROUP LEADERS

PROGRAMME ENTRIES

April's Programme Copy is required by
Close of Play on **Tuesday 14th April 2026.**

Please email copy to:

cheshuntu3aprogram@hotmail.com

Treasurer's Annual Report at 31st October 2025

This report is to be read in conjunction with the Accounts which were available at the registration desk and which should be read when you've a spare moment or two and then brought along to next month's meeting when we will have our AGM. If you have any questions relating to the accounts, please send them to our Secretary – Heather Douglas - at least two weeks before the AGM which is on 23rd April 2026.

On the reverse of the front page is the Trustees' Report, which lists the Committee (Trustees) who were elected by you at the last AGM on 24th April 2025. There was one change to the Committee during the accounting year, when Isabel Martin resigned on 12th June and Margaret Partridge replaced her as Assistant Secretary on the same date.

Following on from the 'Notes to the Accounts' page is the full set of accounts showing the general running of Cheshunt u3a and group activities during the year. You will see our Membership Fees have generated slightly more income than last year at £12,585.00, while the monthly sales of Books, Puzzles, Raffles, Refreshments, Gratuity, Donation etc., plus an enormous amount of almost £167,811.00 generated by you - the members - to the many Group activities, have boosted our Total Receipts to £182,742.00.

The payments - listed below the receipts – have stayed at a very similar amount to last year at £14,241.00, but together with an increased Group payments figure of £162,698.00 brought our Total Expenditure to £176,939.00. However, we finished the year with an excess of receipts over payments of £5,803.00.

The next sheet shows a list of Sundry Expenses, amounting to £2,958.00 while the following one shows details of the Individual Groups who pay money in and out of the bank and details their balances at the year end. All Receipts and Payments are reported by me to the Committee on a monthly basis at every Committee Meeting.

The final sheet is from our new Independent Examiner – Christine Folland – who replaced Christine Hewkin, who sadly died last December. I should like to thank her for stepping into the role this year.

Rob Scott

Treasurer

Chair's Report 2026

As I report on my first year as Chair of Cheshunt u3a I am pleased to say we continue by any measure to be successful and a valuable organisation for older people within the local community. This is in no small part due to the efforts of the committee, currently 15 strong, a mix of old hands and new blood, each of whom contributes to the efficient running of our u3a. Having a full committee is in contrast to some other u3as in the area who struggle to fill committee positions, and it is especially pleasing to see that, as long-serving people have stepped down, new members have come forward to take up the challenge. Special mention to Christine Luff who has stepped down after many years as Secretary and also to Steve Sell who handed over the reins after his three years as Chair. The role of Secretary is especially time-consuming and I am grateful to Heather Douglas for stepping into that role and proving to be efficient and proactive.

Our membership continues to grow and is now above 800, with many people joining through recommendations from friends. Our new vice-chair, Jo Ware, has put a lot of effort into making up a welcome pack for new members and we have also made an effort to enhance the welcome to new members at the monthly meeting. These initiatives are designed not only to provide an introduction to the u3a but also to make new members aware that this is a self-help organisation, and if they have any skills or interests they could share in a new group, to please volunteer. The message to members is we need givers as well as takers.

Thanks also go to Andy Smith who has taken over as membership secretary and used his IT skills to improve our systems. For the coming year we are moving to credit-card style membership cards which are reusable and will ultimately save us money as well as the effort of printing and laminating cards on a yearly basis.

Given the demographic of the u3a it is a sad fact that some of our members do pass on during the year and this year we have lost some good friends from our ranks. I will here make special mention of Jean Wardrop who passed away in 2025. One of our founding members, Jean served on the committee for many years as RUGs

coordinator, ensuring there were always meeters and greeters at the door and hot water in the urn. She is remembered with affection for all her efforts.

Although we have seen some groups close during the year we have also been successful in starting a number of new groups. Interest groups are the lifeblood of the u3a and without group leaders we would not be the organisation we are, so a sincere thank you goes to all of our group leaders for the time and effort they put in to make things happen. It is also positive to see new faces stepping forward as group leaders. Thanks go to Frank Sluter our Groups coordinator for all his efforts in supporting the group leaders.

Our monthly meetings at the Laura Trott Centre go from strength to strength with attendances now regularly exceeding 300. Sue Allum does a great job as speaker secretary ensuring we have a varied speaker programme which both entertains and informs.

We have also established further ties with local community organisations, offering dance lessons with Michele at her local studio and activities at the Herts Young Mariners Base to utilise their facilities when not required for local schools. Several of our groups make use of the community room in Tesco Brookfield, which is provided free of charge, for their meetings. We are appreciative of the support given by Lynn Yourhed, Tesco Community Champion, for the use of this facility and for also providing regular prizes at our monthly raffle.

So, in conclusion, our u3a is currently in a healthy state but the message as always is that it is by the members, for the members and will only continue to flourish if people step forward as committee members, group leaders or as volunteers at monthly meetings and to support group leaders.

Stewart Walter

Cheshunt u3a Groups 2026

NOTICE

As some of our groups have limited membership capacity, this is a gentle reminder that if you would like to join a group, please, out of courtesy, contact the group leader first to check availability.

NEW MEMBERS' GROUP

Jan Speller 07856 956945

If you are thinking of joining us, you can meet a welcoming face in the Laura Trott Café from **12.45pm on the fourth Thursday of the month** prior to our main meeting, except the December meeting.

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Our aim is to aid new members to find, through the various special interest groups, fulfilling and enjoyable experiences and also explore how your own life experiences and interests can contribute to the u3a. Please visit us at our table for more information.

? **AFTERNOON QUIZ**

Mary Hanney 01992 426341

Our next quiz will be on **Tuesday 7th April at 2.00pm** at Halsey Masonic Hall, Old Pond, Cheshunt. Cost is £1.50 plus £1.50 for tea and coffee, paid directly to the Masonic Hall. Please register your interest at the monthly meeting.

ALMOST LOOSE WOMEN

Carol Farren and Ann Powell

We meet on the second Thursday of each month and discuss all sorts of topics, both serious and light-hearted. With this being a very popular group, we are unable to accept any new members at this time.

BACKGAMMON & SCRABBLE

Frank Sluter 07704 730421

Play Scrabble or learn how to play backgammon. We meet in Tesco's Community Room at Brookfield on the **third Thursday at 10.00am**. Next meeting **16th April 2026**.

BADMINTON/TABLE TENNIS Stewart Wagstaff 07594 475051

This is a very popular group, with limited resources at the Goffs Churchgate Academy. We have now reached capacity in the group so reluctantly we have to say we are full. We have set up a waiting

list so please get in touch if you wish to be added. If you feel you would like to lead another group combining both sports or indeed just one, please get in touch; we would be happy and eager to give you every assistance.

 **BASIC FRENCH** Jackie West 07857 693546

Marking the end of 2025, the basic French group donated £50 to Lynn Youthed, the community champion at Tesco for her favourite charity. This was collected by a donation of a pound a week by participants enjoying the tea, coffee and fruit provided and our way of thanking her for all her hard charitable work.

At the start of this year we had two new members join us who have fitted in very well under the guidance of Doreen Humm. Since the last meeting at Laura Trott we have had a further two new members and they are also doing very well and the group continues to enjoy the get-together. We meet at the Tesco community room every **Monday** during term time at **12.15pm-1.45pm**.

 **BASIC SPANISH** Paul Lee 07888 748399

This group runs **every other Monday** in the Tesco Community Room, Brookfield Centre.

If there is anyone out there who speaks a good level of Spanish and can assist in taking the group forward, would they kindly make themselves known to the group leader.

 **BIRDWATCHING GROUP** Brian Fitzjohn 07709 455991



Black-headed Gull in Breeding Plumage / Photo by Phillip Thornton

Our meeting this month was at the Wildlife Discovery Centre at Fishers Green in the Lea Valley Park. A group of 11 of us luckily had good weather for an enjoyable springtime outing. We were surrounded by birdsong, Robin, Chiffchaff and a Cetti's Warbler which showed well. A flock of Siskins were another highlight. Altogether 34 species were observed.

Our next meeting will be on **Monday 13th April** at RSPB Rye Meads. Meet at **10.00am**, further details at the group table.

 **BOLIVIA** Sylvia Lyons 07851 055346

Dates for Bolivia **every Monday at 2.00pm**. New members always welcome for a light-hearted afternoon of cards. Bolivia is a derivation of Canasta played with three packs of cards. If anyone would like to play or learn how to play, please come along and enjoy a very sociable afternoon.

St. Clement's Church, Cheshunt Wash, EN8 0LU opposite Hillview Gardens.

 **BOOK CLUB** Fiona Hill 07870 383625

We meet approximately **once a month** on a **Wednesday at 1.30pm** in the cafe at the Laura Trott Leisure Centre. We take it in turns to choose which book to read. Last month, we read *Three Men in a Boat* by Jerome K. Jerome. We are a friendly group and would welcome new members. For more information, please contact Fiona Hill on 07870 383625.

 **COACH TRIPS** Heather Douglas 07984 791184

Everyone enjoyed a cold but bright day in St Ives for our March trip. The rain held off until we got back on the coach.

Ilfracombe holiday balances must be paid at the March meeting. A trip to Clacton on **Wednesday 6th May** will be open for booking at the March meeting.

 **COUNTRY DANCING** Valerie Foster 07704 848363

We are a very friendly and social group who meet twice a month, the **first and third Thursdays, 2.00pm-4.00pm** at Bollescroft. (Next to the Spotlight car park.)

No previous experience is necessary and you don't have to worry about a partner as we ensure everyone enjoys the dancing. We have a caller who walks us through the dances before we attempt them to music and continues to call out the movements

throughout the whole dance. It's a great way to enjoy some gentle exercise.

The cost is £4 a session which includes a cold drink. Your first visit is free so please come along and give us a try.

Our next dates are: **2nd and 16th April, 7th and 21st May 2026.**

 **CURRY CLUB** Mary Hanney 01992 426341

Nothing planned for April.

 **CYCLE GROUP** Stewart Wagstaff 07594 475051

We have 59 members in the group cycling **every Wednesday** and some Mondays. We have six sub-groups meeting at various locations. Most groups aim to stay off-road on decent tracks within the Lea Valley, venturing further afield at times on quiet roads and cycle lanes. All rides end at Cheshunt YHA for coffee and a chat.

 **EXERCISE GROUP KEEPING FIT** Mary Hanney 01992 426341

Every Thursday at the Laura Trott Leisure Centre. Registration is at **9.30am**. The class will commence at 9.40am, costing £4.00. These sessions are run by fully qualified instructors, whose aim is to see we have an enjoyable time whilst trying to stay fit.

 **EXPLORING LONDON 1** Sheila Barton 01992 636783
Pat Smith 01992 623448

Our February outing was to The Royal Courts of Justice on the Strand. After going through the "Airport style security" we met Owen, our tour guide for the day, inside the Great Hall. We stayed in the Great Hall for a few minutes while Owen explained what the tour would involve (and found out one member of our party had many years before had a civil dispute case heard here!).

The Royal Courts is a beautiful building designed by George Edmund Street, by way of winning a competition in the High Victorian Gothic Revival style; it is a Grade I listed building. Although Street died before its completion and opening in 1882 by Queen Victoria. Unlike the Old Bailey, no major criminal trials are held here; it deals with high-level civil cases, family law and appeals. We had a great time exploring this beautiful building and learning about its place in our country's history and present-day business.

Future events:

20th April: Queen Elizabeth's clothes at Buckingham Palace.

18th May: walk around the Barbican with a guide.

27th June: trip on the gangster bus touring the East End with a guide talking us through the sites.

Next meeting will be on **10th April** (first Friday is Good Friday) **at 10.15am**. This will be held at our new venue, which is Halsey Hall (Masonic Hall). Entrance is round the back and we are in the Parson Room, which is on the ground floor. There is plenty of parking there.

EXPLORING LONDON 2 Rosemary Trundell 01992 621155

Our February trip was a guided tour of the Royal Courts of Justice in the Strand. We entered into the Great Hall to meet our guide, Nick. Our first impression was that it is somewhat reminiscent of a cathedral. It was designed by George Edward Street in Gothic Revival style and opened by Queen Victoria in 1882.

Internally the courts are arranged off the great hall. Unfortunately, as it was lunchtime, there were no courts in session during our tour, but we were advised one is free to enter the courts as a spectator at any time. Nick advised us that the Royal Courts only deal with civil matters and mentioned some of the high-profile cases which have been heard recently.

In March we went to the cinematic, Our Story, at the Natural History Museum where the walls and floor burst into life around you. We witnessed the birth of life on our planet and saw it evolve over billions of years.

It was narrated by Sir David Attenborough, who reminded us we all have a responsibility to care for the future of our world. As an added bonus we got to view the magnificent architecture and exhibits of the Natural History Museum.

Our forthcoming trips are as follows:-

Monday 27th April - Tour of Trinity House

Wednesday 20th May - Queen Elizabeth II - Her life in style

We meet on the **third Friday** of the month at the Beaumont Centre. Our next meeting will be on **Friday 17th April**.

EXPLORING LONDON 3 Steve Gollop 01992 629209

Next Trips:

Monday 27th April - Ramses and the Pharaohs Gold Exhibition at Battersea Power Station. We have 2 spare tickets for this trip – Cost £21 each.

Please come to our table at today's meeting if interested.

Thursday 7th May - Regents Canal Boat Trip – more details at our table.

Our next planning meeting will be on **Wednesday 1st April 2026** at **11.00am**, St. Clement's Church Hall, Turnford.

EXPLORING LONDON 4 Steve Sell 01992 443012

The next planning meeting will be on **Wednesday 15th April 2026** from **11.00am** at St. Clement's Church Hall.

In February we visited the Secrets of the Thames 'Mudlarking' Exhibition at the Museum of London in Docklands. We started with an interesting talk about the exhibition in the Lecture Room on the third floor.

Our enthusiastic host conducted a 90-minute audio-visual presentation which included many photos she had taken that had enlarged exhibits taken from the exhibition. She was able to explain the significance of many of the items, particularly useful since these were usually quite small when we got to see them in the exhibition and very easily missed.

Our host explained how twice a day the River Thames dramatically recedes to expose a landscape unknown to most Londoners. Among the mud and stones, the tides reveal remarkable objects from every era of London's past. The exhibition included hundreds of mudlarked objects from personal items to historical relics, with many on display for the first time.

The journey ended with a space for reflection on the mysteries of the moon and the tides which make mudlarking possible. Afterwards, members enjoyed some refreshment and were free to explore the permanent museum collections.

Future events:

Thursday 9th April – 'In the Footsteps of Sherlock Holmes' guided walk

Wednesday 6th May – Queen Elizabeth II – Her Life in Style and permanent collection at the King's Gallery, Buckingham Palace.



ELG-5 at the Magic Circle

The Magic Circle is situated in a quiet street near Euston Station. The society was formed in 1905 when 23 amateur and professional magicians got together at Pinoli's Restaurant in Soho. Since then, The Magic Circle has been at the forefront of the magic community in the UK and worldwide.

Magic was a massive part of theatrical entertainment back then and one of the original magicians also invented the first pay lavatory which required the insertion of a penny to open the door - hence the expression "to spend a penny".

There are currently over 1700 members worldwide and potential new members require a proposer and seconder, must pass an interview and examination - usually a live performance in front of three judges and an audience of members.

In the 1980s, a campaign gathered pace to admit women and this was finally successful in 1991. There are now a total of over 80 female members.

The wish for a permanent home was eventually successful, and with hard work and with the generosity of members, together with cash from the National Lottery, the building was refurbished and opened in 1998.

It is a fascinating building. Inside the entrance is a spectacular "helical staircase" with wall murals depicting key scenes from the history of magic.

After tea/coffee and biscuits, we enjoyed a thoroughly interesting tour of the building, including the theatre and museum which included much magic memorabilia.

Finally we were treated to several very entertaining magic tricks before heading off for refreshments and the journey home.

Future visits:

Monday 20th April - Barts North Wing

Monday 11th May - Camfield Place

Thursday 4th June - Shuttleworth

Our next planning meeting is on **Tuesday 14th April 2026** at **10.00am** at the Beaumont Centre.

 **FAMILY HISTORY** Rena King 07870 567684

Our family history group meets once a month and welcomes beginners or experienced family history researchers. Our next group meeting will be on **Monday 20th April** from **2.00pm-4.00pm** at the Tesco Community Room, Brookfield Centre, Cheshunt.

Look forward to seeing you; all you need is a pencil and paper and any family documents you may wish to show us.

 **GARDENING GROUP** Carole Malcolm 07810 571606

At our last meeting we welcomed a new member.

We had a general discussion on all things concerning gardening.

Our next meeting will be on **10th April** at **10.30am** in the Tesco Community Room at the Brookfield Centre, Cheshunt.

 **HOLIDAY with Cheshunt u3a** Mary Hanney 01992 426341

Warners **Monday 27th July 2026**, 5 days and 4 nights at Lakeside, Hayling Island. Price £490, deposit £50.

Potters, Hopton on Sea, Norfolk.

All inclusive **Friday 11th September - Monday 14th September**, £429 per person.

Potters have a number of double rooms available on the above holiday (sorry currently no singles available). Possibly self-drive, but depending on numbers I would investigate the possibility of arranging a small coach or minibus for transport. Please register your interest at my table. I was given the details of this break following a recent visit that I made to Potters.

 **LINE DANCING for beginners** Jenny McKenzie 07948 380543

Meeting **10.00am-12.00 noon Tuesdays weekly** at Cheshunt Sea Cadets Hall, Flamstead End, Albermarle Avenue, Cheshunt EN8 0EY. Tuition for an hour and a half at £7 including refreshments. Parking available.

 **MODEL-MAKING** Jack Snary 01992 638046

Our group meets on the **first Wednesday** of the month at **2.00pm** in the Crocodile Pub, College Road, Cheshunt EN8 9NQ. Members' interests cover plastic kits, dollshouses, aircraft, trains, boats, wargaming figures, fairground rides and vehicles.

Wednesday 1st April: Building this model was no joke!
Wednesday 6th May: Getting Started.

 **MORNING WALKS** Rob Scott 01992 445288

We had a glorious walk from the Feathers in early March with the sun shining the whole way round and surprisingly our boots remained mud free.

Our next walk will be on **Tuesday 7th April** from the Whitehill Golf Club, Whitehill, Dane End, Ware. SG12 0JS; we've walked from here before, but this will be a new 5.5ish mile circular walk.

The reception/bar is expecting us from **9.30am** onwards to pre-order our lunches, before setting off at 10.00am.

Forthcoming Walks:

5th May - from The Five Horseshoes, Little Berkhamsted - hopefully to see Hertfordshire's unknown Stone Circle.

2nd June - The White Horse, Hertingfordbury - via Panshanger.

 **M.O.T.O.W.N.** Lesley Casson 07749 868305

M.O.T.O.W.N stands for 'Members On Their Own WhatsApp Network' and is open to anyone who is single, widowed or divorced and would like to meet and socialise with people in the same position.

We don't have regular meetings on set days. Instead, all members are able to issue invitations for a social activity, such as coffee, lunch, walks or whatever they like to do, on any day of the week or at the weekend.

All the arrangements are made using our WhatsApp group, so anyone wishing to join needs to be familiar with using this app.

Please send me a message on WhatsApp if you wish to join.

 **MUSICIANS UNITED** Peter Harris 07941 551102

We meet **weekly** on **Mondays at 10.00am**. To date we have 7 members: saxophonists, clarinettists, keyboards, bass guitar, rhythm guitar and percussion. Playing mainly jazz. Please come along. The standard varies greatly.

Venue – Currently seeking a new venue; however, if you are interested, please phone Peter.

 **MUSIC IN THE AFTERNOON** Bernie Broomhead 07890 124852

Current dates are **Friday 27th March and 10th April at 2.00pm**. Bring along a CD of **your** choice. Anything goes, pop, classical, jazz even Heavy Metal.

Venue - Tesco Community Room, Brookfield Centre EN8.

 **OUTINGS BY COACH** Steve Sell 07572 078511

Forthcoming trips:

Wednesday 22nd April 2026 - Waddesden Manor near Aylesbury

Final places as numbers must be confirmed and payment made.

The famous French Renaissance–style chateau built in the 1870s by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild. It's an early start to arrive for included refreshments followed by a private tour of the house.

Cost –

National Trust Members for coach, tour and refreshments £40.

Non-NT members for coach, tour, refreshments and entrance £65

Please ensure any outstanding payments are paid at the meeting.

Wednesday 24th June, Visit to Harrow School

Cost includes a guided tour of this historic private boarding school which was established in 1572 under a royal charter from Queen Elizabeth I. Notable alumni include many prime ministers (Peel, Baldwin & Churchill) and royals.

Cost - £40 covers the coach, guided tour and afternoon tea with finger sandwiches, cake and scones.

 **OUT TO LUNCH GROUP** Mary Hanney 01992 426341

Nothing planned for this month.

 **PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP** Stewart Walter 07881 703928

Our next meeting will be on the afternoon of **Wednesday 8th April** when we are planning an outdoor photography trip, more details to follow nearer the time. If you want to join our friendly group of amateur photographers please visit our table at the main meeting.



PICKLEBALL

Stewart Walter 07881 703928

Pickleball is a fast-growing sport played on a badminton court with a low, tennis-type net and solid bats similar to table tennis and with a plastic tennis-sized ball. It is an active sport requiring reasonable hand-eye coordination but suitable for older players.

We currently run two sessions at the Laura Trott leisure centre.

Mondays from **4.00pm-6.00pm**. **Wednesdays** from **5.00pm-7.00pm**. Unfortunately both sessions are now fully subscribed but I am starting a waiting list so if anyone is interested please contact me for more details.



PLAY THE HARMONICA

Steve Beach 07504 601942

We are pleased to report the Play the Harmonica group are well and truly up and running with a good and enjoyable start to acquiring our playing skills, all at a well-balanced pace. We are initially focused on techniques rather than attempting to play tunes, given many of us are beginners.

Meetings are held **every two weeks** on a **Thursday** with the next occurring at **4.00pm** for 1 hour on **26th March** in the Tesco Community Room, Brookfield Centre, Cheshunt. If you are interested in joining us then contact Steve on 07504 601942 or travel.buddies@ntlworld.com.



RUMMIKUB

Jenny Christian 07788 676170

Current dates **Friday 10th and 24th April at 10.00am**. Based at St. Clement's Church, Cheshunt Wash, EN8 0LU opposite Hillview Gardens.



SAILING

Nick Law 07973 111462

We sail **every Tuesday** at Broxbourne Sailing Club as part of Hertford and District u3a Sailing Group. The group is currently looking for a few more members. If interested, please contact Nick for further information.



SEW KNIT & CHAT

Marion Castro 01992 626240

We are a friendly bunch who meet at St Clement's Church Hall every **first** and **third Thursday** of the month from **2.00pm-4.00pm**. Bring along your sewing, knitting, cross-stitching or crochet. Want to learn a new craft or have a problem with your own work, come along and someone will be willing to help. Tea and coffee are provided. Our next meetings will be on **2nd and 16th April**. Look forward to seeing you there.

 **SHORT MAT BOWLS** Jo Ware jojocware@outlook.com

However you roll,
However you stroll,
Come along and have some fun,
with a game of Short Mat Bowls.

This is a friendly, social morning. Join us for some relaxed, light exercise and a friendly chat. Beginners welcome (bowls are provided).

Car parking is free for players (car registration upon arrival in reception). **Every Friday: 10.15am-12.30pm** at the Laura Trott leisure centre. Cost: £4.40 per session, rising to £4.60 in April or £4.30 with a 'Friend of Spotlight'.

 **SHORT WALKS** Frank Sluter 07704 730421

We meet on the **fourth Friday** of the month at **10.00am**. Next walk will meet in Cedars Park car park on **27th March 2026**. Everyone's welcome.

 **SINGING FOR FUN** Janet 07709 980019
Barry 07840 965423

The singing for fun group meets at the Royal British Legion hall in Crossbrooke Street, Cheshunt. We meet **weekly** on a Monday at **2.00pm-3.30pm**.

We sing all types of songs from the 60s, 70s and country and songs from the shows. All songs are streamed from Apple Music and all lyrics are on a screen. We sing along to the actual recordings. So if you want to hear or sing a song just let me know and I will download and try it.

If you can't sing come along and try or just listen to the music. We are a friendly group and you get a tea or coffee and biscuits for a fee of £3.00.

 **SPANISH** Christine Dawson 07958 557448

We usually meet **weekly** on **Wednesday afternoons**. The group has been running for some time now and is not suitable for beginners. If you are interested in joining us, please contact me.

 **THEATRE GROUP** Jackie Yeardy 07939 149997

The group will be going to Milton Keynes Theatre to see *Sunny Afternoon* on 25th March. This show has an excellent write-up so hopefully it will be an enjoyable afternoon.

The Devil Wears Prada - 13th May 2026 - Dominion Theatre London - £58

This show has a very short reserve list - so if you are interested it is well worth adding your name to the list.

Teresa Joanne - London Docks - 22nd July - £64

We are now taking names for this very popular outing. Please get to my table early if you wish to go n this trip as it will sell out quickly.

Faulty Towers Dining Experience - London Hotel - £76. Date?

We now have enough names to go ahead and book this very successful **Sunday Lunch** - served by 'Basil and Co'. This experience has been running for 13 years - which is a measure of its success.

We will be confirming a date by the next meeting.

N.B.

Once again - if paying by cash please put the right money in an envelope with your name etc on it.

Ours is a very busy table and it takes so much time sorting out random cash payments.

Also whilst we always try our best to re-sell tickets where possible we can no longer accept cancellations with less than 48 hours' notice.

 **WALKING FOOTBALL** John Durrant 07515 971162

We play at Broxbourne Sports Club. We meet on **Fridays 1.30-3.00pm**, the cost is £4.00 per head. Rules are simple and the aim is for the games to be both sociable and fun. If interested please make contact by phone or at the monthly meetings.

 **WALKING NETBALL** Jacky Williams 07956 319073



Some of our members

Come and join Walking Netball **every Wednesday** at **2.00pm** (term-time only). We meet at the Laura Trott Centre.

Whether you've never played before or haven't picked up a netball in 50 years, everyone is welcome. No experience or skills needed - just come along for a fun, friendly hour, get moving and make some new friends. Stay for tea and coffee after the game and a chat.

It's a great way to stay active, have a laugh, and become part of a welcoming community. Come and give it a try.

WATERCOLOUR GROUP Jack Snary 01992 638046

This group has joined with Broxbourne u3a. The Broxbourne Art Group meets in the Bollescroft Main Hall from **10.30am-1.00pm, Mondays** (Bollescroft is the building in the car park next to the Spotlight). The cost is £5.00 per meeting, including tea, coffee and biscuits – car parking is free.

Next meetings will be

30th March 2026 - At the races.

13th April 2026 - Foreign climes.

27th April 2026 - A form of transport.

11th May 2026 - The May Queen

Note - there is only one meeting in May.

Please contact me for a full list of 2026 dates and subjects.

GROUP SHARING

If interested please use contact details:-

Discussion	Ann Sims	01992 465629
Embroidery	Margaret Cramphorn	01992 441327
Gardening 1	Geraldine Stone	01992 442609
Shakespeare Group	Lee Rayner	07426 447812
Tai Chi	Ann Glover	01992 466808

Gift Aid

A big thank you to the 100 members who have signed up to Gift Aid their membership payment. This will enable Cheshunt u3a to make a claim to HMRC for £375.00.

Gift Aiding your membership will not cost you anything, but it does enable Cheshunt u3a, as a registered charity, to claim 25p in the £1 on your membership payment. Gift Aid is reclaimed from the tax you pay in the current tax year. You therefore **do need to be a taxpayer** to agree to Gift Aid.

If you are a taxpayer please agree to Gift Aid your membership payment by completing the Gift Aid Declaration form at the Gift Aid table at the main meeting.

COMMUNITY NEWS

The group listed below are independent and not operated under the u3a banner.

CHAIR-BASED KEEP FIT

Mary Hanney 01992 426341

Please note change of venue:

Bushby Hall, Wharf Road, Wormley. EN10 6HX. **Every Tuesday at 11.00am-11.45am.** The class is run by a fully qualified instructor, cost £3.

This class has been running for a very long time; it is unfortunate we have now had to change venues.

Please note, due to space restrictions, further Community News has been held over until further notice.

Cheshunt u3a Annual General Meeting

AGENDA for Thursday 23rd April 2026 At the Laura Trott Centre

NB. The meeting will commence at **2:15pm**.
Please take your seat in plenty of time.

Welcome and apologies
Minutes of the previous AGM (April 2025)

Matters Arising
No matters arising from the last AGM

Chair's annual report
Any questions
Proposer and seconder for Chair's report

Treasurer's annual report
Any questions
Proposer and seconder for Treasurer's report

Election of Committee members
Nominations received for volunteers to replace members of the
current committee.
See page 24 for current Committee Members.

Appointment of Independent Examiner
Christine Folland has offered to stand this year.
Proposer and seconder for the Independent Examiner

Any Other Business

*Our next AGM will be held on Thursday 22nd April 2027.
(Subject to confirmation)*

Any questions for the AGM or nominations for new committee
members (proposed and seconded) should be submitted to:
cheshuntu3asec@yahoo.com
on or before **9th April 2026**.

GENERAL NOTICES



JIGSAW PUZZLES AND BOOKS WANTED

If you wish to donate puzzles to help raise funds, please bring them along to the monthly meeting. However, we are unable to take hardback books and paperbacks need to be in a reasonable condition.



TRUSTY TRADER BOOK

The Book is kept on the Information Table to view and is only available at the Monthly Meetings. The tradespeople listed have done work for members who feel they can recommend them. However, Cheshunt u3a offers no guarantees and suggests you use the lists as guidance only and do your own research. The tradespeople listed are not endorsed by the u3a.

OUR PRIVACY POLICY

Cheshunt u3a requires a certain amount of private information from its members to enable effective operation. Our Privacy Policy can be viewed on our website <https://cheshunt.u3asite.uk>.

Alternatively, you can obtain a printed copy by contacting the Membership Secretary by phone or at a monthly meeting. Members' information held by Cheshunt u3a will not be disclosed to any third party.

CHESHUNT u3a COMMITTEE

CHAIR	STEWART WALTER	01992 631592
VICE CHAIR	JO WARE cheshuntu3avicechair@outlook.com	
TREASURER	ROB SCOTT	01992 445288
SECRETARY	HEATHER DOUGLAS	07984 791184
MEMBERSHIP SEC	ANDY SMITH	07930 356976
SPEAKER SECRETARY & RAFFLE ORGANISER	SUE ALLUM	01992 307019
GROUPS CO-ORDINATOR	FRANK SLUTER	07704 730421
ASS PROG PROD	STEWART WAGSTAFF	07594 475051
RUG CO-ORDINATOR	TONY KNIGHT	01992 622163
WEBSITE CO-ORDINATOR	VANESSA LUCAS	01992 621258
EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR	JOHN DURRANT	07515 971162
SAFEGUARDING	MALCOLM LUFF	07835 927417
COMMITTEE MEMBER	PETER HARRIS	07941 551102
COMMITTEE MEMBER	BRIAN PEEL	07941 551102
COMMITTEE MEMBER	MARGARET PARTRIDGE	

PROGRAMME PROD	RAY LUCAS	07952 465528
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