

Dear Members,

No-one came forward to volunteer for the upcoming vacancies. More about that next month. Just a reminder that there will be no newsletter in December and the cut off date for entries in the November newsletter is 20th November.

Best wishes,

Pauline



Concert

Concert on Friday 29th November 2024 at the RFH at 7:30pm

An evening of Tchaikovsky and magic.

Weber Overture, Oberon

Tchaikovsky Variations on a Rococo Theme

Tchaikovsky Selections from Swan Lake

Cost: £50 includes, ticket, coach and gratuity

Last date to book if tickets available: **25th October 2024**

Concert on Friday 31st January 2025 at the Barbican at 7:30pm

The Year 1905: Shostakovich's monumental symphony meets Beethoven at his brightest.

BBC SO conducted by Jakub Hrusa and the soloist is Jonathan Biss on the piano.

Friday 31st January 2025 at the Barbican at 7:30pm.

Pavel Haas Scherzo Triste, Op 5

Ludwig van Beethoven Piano Concerto No 2

Dmitri Shostakovich Symphony No 11, *The Year 1905*

Cost: £55 includes, ticket, coach and gratuity

Please contact Jeff Bergman via Pauline on chair@wareu3a.co.uk

Please note that seats can only be confirmed on receipt of payment.

*Important notice: Booking closes on the **29th October**, so if you wish to come, please let Jeff know as soon as possible. The Barbican box office impose strict reservation conditions so I need to provide the final number of attendees two months prior to the concert.*

Concert group leader (Jeff Bergman)

When I took over as leader of the group I intended to do it for a limited period. Hence I intend to stand down at the end of the 2024-25 season, after two years of organising the visits for the group.

To continue with the successful and enjoyable concerts that we have had, the U3A are hoping that a member would step forward and volunteer to join me to eventually takeover the leadership of the group from July 2025 onwards.

Craft Group

The Craft Group has been working on a crochet blanket, which we will offer for sale to the highest bidder (or could raffle). Profit to the Museum and Southern Maltings. Here are photos of the work in progress. It is looking very pretty.



Our next project is a Christmas blanket, which may be ready for this year, but more likely 2025!

MAGI (Making a Green Impact)

This is a joint group with Hertford u3a.

On Friday 15th November, there is a Vintage /New Clothes sale in conjunction with Isobel Hospice at 2pm at Allenburys Sports and Social Club (SG12 0DJ).

Please bring along any unwanted clothes or maybe buy yourself a new outfit.



A Visit from Affinity Water – 20 September 2024

Alister Leggatt, Integrated Catchment Manager of Affinity Water

The MAGI group were introduced to the work of Affinity Water, which along with Thames Water, provides Hertfordshire 's water supply, with Affinity being responsible for clean water supply and Thames is for waste water.

As the UK's largest water-only provider of clean water Affinity is responsible for

- 1) treating clean water, (after deciding whether it is caused by clean or polluted water in conjunction or dispute with Thames),
- 2) dealing with leaks,
- 3) river restoration projects to cope with the impacts of extremes of climate change that are water related,
- 4) reducing water abstraction of chalk aquifers and streams by catchment management,
and
- 5) behaviour-change programmes of water management for farms and others along with GROUNDSWELL, a regenerative agriculture festival held in Hertfordshire at Lannock Manor Farm, SG4 7EE each year with the support of Affinity.

The enthusiasm and enlightened support of our speaker for positive water management and projects to achieve good environmental effectiveness was found to be refreshing-- even as some MAGI members queried the executive salaries and shareholder dividends of the company management. Affinity was said to be among the more enlightened managing companies and were potentially likely to be requested to take over as and when other clean water companies might be restructured or their management controlled differently by DEFRA in the future.

I believe most observers were positively encouraged by Affinity's attitude and presentation.

Marion Oliver

