



Ware u3a Newsletter June 2025

Dear Members,

Another month has flown by, and Ware u3a continues to thrive with activity and enthusiasm!

Upcoming Events

Summer Party – Tuesday, 1st July

Join us for our Summer Party at The Glaxo Garden Room, Allenby's Sports and Social Club, Harris Lane, from 2:00 to 5:00 pm.

While we may not offer royal guests or rooftop snipers like Buckingham Palace, we promise a warm, memorable afternoon.

Note: There is no monthly meeting in August. We resume on Wednesday, 10th September.

Monthly Meetings at Wodson Park Sports Centre:

- **9th July 2025 at 1:45 pm**

Tales from the Riverbank – Jo Laurie

- **10th September 2025 at 1:45 pm**

The Highs and Lows of a Stuntwoman's Life – Lucy Allen

Science Group Talk – Flying with Matthew Clutterbuck

On Tuesday 3rd, the Science Group enjoyed a fascinating talk by Matthew Clutterbuck on his journey in aviation.

From his early dreams of flight and time in the Hoddesdon Air Cadets, Matthew's career took off when he joined Easyjet at just 23. He trained extensively and was posted to several airports including Liverpool, Milan, and Luton. Eventually, he became a captain and later a training pilot.

He shared intriguing cockpit comparisons between Airbus and Boeing – notably, Airbus uses a joystick, while Boeing sticks with the traditional yoke.

PTO



A common myth is that pilots sit back and relax once autopilot is on. In reality, air traffic control frequently instructs course changes, keeping pilots actively engaged throughout the flight.

Matthew also explained Autoland, used during foggy landings. However, it requires special airport systems and increases the landing gap between aircraft – causing potential congestion, hence its limited use.

As for the future, electric planes remain far off. Batteries are too heavy, and aircraft typically land much lighter than they take off – not feasible with current electric tech.

u3a Friends– A National Initiative

u3a Friends is a vibrant new platform bringing members together through shared stories, activities, and benefits.

By signing up for the newsletter, you'll receive:

- National and regional u3a news and updates
- Access to exclusive FriendsExtra offers in:
 - Health & wellbeing
 - Shopping discounts
 - Travel and leisure
 - Insurance services
 - Financial and legal advice

Who can join?

Anyone supporting the u3a movement – including friends and family – can become a u3a Friend. More info here: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/get-involved/u3a-friends>

Interest Groups Online (IGO)

IGOI is an online hub offering talks, courses, and interest groups run by u3a members, accessible from your home.

- Annual membership: £12 (from 1st April 2025 – 31st March 2026)
- Half-year fee: £6 (from 1st October onwards)
- More details: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/interest-groups-online#IGONoticeboard>

It's a great way to try new interests, meet members nationwide, and share your knowledge in interactive, peer-led groups.

Walking London Group 6 – Recent Highlights

The group recently explored several iconic London landmarks:

- The Globe Theatre
A beautiful, timber-framed reconstruction celebrating 16th-century theatre and architecture.
- The Clink Prison Museum
One of England's oldest prisons, offering a haunting glimpse into medieval justice.
- The Monument
A 202-foot column marking the Great Fire of London's origin. Climb its 311 steps for an unforgettable view!
- The George Pub
A literary gem featured in Little Dorrit, with wooden beams and a cobbled courtyard steeped in Dickensian charm.



Monthly Meeting Wednesday 11 June.

The talk this month was given by

Murray Craig on Sheep over London Bridge

He talked about the Freedom of the City of London, an ancient ceremony dating back to the thirteenth century. He is only the 37th Clerk of the Chamberlain's Court since 1294.

It is a unique post involving conducting the Freedom Ceremony and over the years Murray has admitted everyone from Luciano Pavarotti, JK Rowling, Joanna Lumley, Bob Geldof, Sir Andrew Strauss and Theresa May, He has been the conduit between the 110 Livery Companies of the City of London and the Court of Aldermen, advising and guiding on charters.

The Roll is still done on parchment paper and Murray has admitted thousands of people across the 25 years he did this.

The Freedom of the City of London is a historic tradition where individuals are recognized for their outstanding contributions to London or public life. It's not a formal privilege today, but rather an honorary award, similar to receiving a knighthood. The ceremony is conducted at Guildhall, the City's civic hall.

Livery Companies:

Many individuals receive the Freedom through their Livery Company, a traditional guild or society, as it's a prerequisite for becoming a Liveryman.

Ceremony:

The ceremony involves receiving a partially illuminated copy of the Freedom and is followed by a toast and lunch.



Group News

Interested in French?

There's a vacancy in the Intermediate French Group run by Hertford u3a. It meets every Friday from 10:00–11:15 am at Zara Kimber's home in Ware.

For more info, contact: Debbie Rudgley– groups@wareu3a.co.uk

For any of who enjoy a wordsearch here is one based on some of the ware groups. Answers in the next newsletter.

africa, croquet, london, reading, bowls, food, rummikub, chi, german, pilates

Words can go in any direction and can share letters as they cross over each other. Words can also be diagonal

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n v h f q a d r x s
e o o c c b o w l s
o o d i h w c g g e
d g r n u i r x w r
o f c e o v o v z e
a i r d p l q n p a
n a m r e g u n n d
z f h l b k e o g i
w i p i l a t e s n
b u k i m m u r i g
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If you have any questions then please don't hesitate to contact me at chair@wareu3a.co.uk

Yours,

Keith

That's
all folks