



Ware u3a Newsletter July 2026

Dear All,

I gather we should be calling ourselves A "wisdom" of members/tutors: A witty and affectionate term coined by members in other u3a associations to reflect the educational, self-help ethos of the movement. I think this is quite appropriate and describes us well. I was having a look through our list of groups recently and we have a wide and varied choice but again if you feel that there is a gap and you would like to start a group then please contact the Group secretary, Debbie Rudgley at groups@wareu3a.co.uk who will give you all the help you need.

u3a is one of the largest membership organisations in the UK. Our members come together to learn for fun in retirement. Through u3a, members make friends and find community.

Watch this animated film to see what u3a offer in local communities across the UK.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EI10sPW1WY&t=58s>

Cars Ancient and Modern.

One pleasant Tuesday morning in the recent past the Cars Ancient and Modern group set off to a location known to only one person. We drove for a while and then met up and then followed the said person to the final destination. This was a car storage facility where some very expensive cars were stored. We were met by a co-founder who gave us the history of the facility and then allowed us to look at the cars, but not too close. A number of them were covered in dust sheets but this added to the fun as we started a guessing game of what they were. This was not as hard as it sounds as the dust sheets were very close fitting. We spent about 90 minutes there and had some very interesting conversations. After that we set off on the return drive to The Goat at Hertford Heath. I would like to thank Dick Dickson for organising this treat.

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Below is a map of their location



Car Storage somewhere within the black outline



MAGI

On June 19th the MAGI presented the film *The Peoples Emergency Briefing*. A new film aimed at enhancing public awareness of climate and environmental risks. The film had its national release on April 7, 2026, and a series of community-led screenings is scheduled throughout the year. Produced by the National Emergency Briefing team with technical support from Collective Digital, the project highlights how local groups across the UK are organising in-person events to raise awareness, foster dialogue, and encourage collective engagement with resilience challenges.

The MAGI showing was held at Allenburys Sports and Social Club and a very interested and knowledgeable audience were present.

Exploring London 8 – Disastrous London

Eighteen members joined our fascinating “Disastrous London” walk, which explored some of the City’s darker and more dramatic history. The walk began at Charterhouse, a site with connections to plague victims and centuries of London life. From there, we made our way through Smithfield, an area rich in history and once known for public executions and burnings.

Along the route, we viewed several buildings still bearing scars from wartime bombing. Particularly striking were examples of damage caused during the First World War, providing a tangible reminder of the impact of conflict on the capital.

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The walk included stories of crime, punishment and hanging, bringing to life the often-brutal realities of earlier centuries. We also visited Barts Hospital, one of the oldest hospitals in Europe, and the magnificent Church of St Bartholomew the Great. The Norman architecture and peaceful atmosphere offered a contrast to the darker themes of the day.



A highlight was seeing Damien Hirst's sculpture Exquisite Pain, an impressive contemporary artwork that sparked much discussion among the group.

Our walk concluded near Blackfriars and The Cockpit Pub, members then went for refreshments and conversation, an enjoyable afternoon exploring London's turbulent past.

Richard Johnson

You may remember that previously we have had talks given by Charlie Haylock, which were very entertaining. You can now go on You tube to hear him reading some classical literature in his Suffolk accent. You just need to go to You tube and search Charlie Haylock.

The Book Nook in Ware, is a small, family run, community book shop which hosts regular author events. Their next is on 9th July at Hertford Library with a local author Joanna Miller author of The Eights, a fascinating book about the first women to study for degrees at Oxford in 1920. There is a cost for tickets but does include wine and snacks. If you wish to go, then please use the link below.

<https://www.booknookshop.co.uk/products/ticket-the-book-nook-meets-joanna-miller-award-winning-author-of-the-eights-a-captivating-debut-novel-about-sisterhood-self-determination-courage>

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Forthcoming events

8th July 2026

Monthly Meeting

[The Life, Music and Influence of Buddy Holly with Tony Tutton](#)

9th September 2026

Monthly Meeting

[Midshires Search and Rescue](#)

14th October 2026

Monthly Meeting

[Patricia Routledge with Steven Dimner](#)

11th November 2026

Monthly Meeting

[Gilbert & Sullivan with Bernard Lockett](#)

9th December 2026

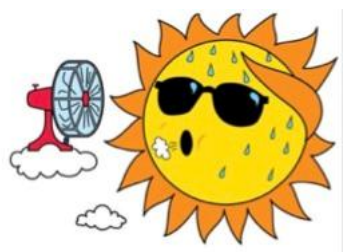
Monthly Meeting

[Inside the Grotto with Colin Oakes](#)

NB: Please remember there is no monthly talk in August.

And finally in this hot weather please remember: -

Beat the heat, stay smart, and stay cool! Sip water often (don't wait until you're thirsty), wear light, comfy clothes, and dodge the midday sun. Take shady breaks and check in on your friends. Watch for heatstroke signs—dizziness, headache, confusion, nausea, or hot, dry skin. If they pop up, move to a cool spot, drink water and get medical help fast. Enjoy the sunshine but play it safe!



All the best

Keith

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