

# Richmond upon Thames u3a

## Newsletter – February 2026

### Group News

#### **1. New Italian Group - Intermediate Level.**

2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 2.15pm. East Twickenham, near Richmond Bridge.

Please phone Murette if you are interested: (020) 8891 5727

Leggiamo dei libri popolare e moderni, per esempio, un Giallo. Potremo anche scrivere una mezza pagina descrivendo un film, o un attività che ci è piaciuta recentemente. E chiacchieriamo!

#### **2. Table tennis for Beginners.**

Table tennis is enormous fun and is an excellent exercise for hand/eye coordination and general well-being. So, anyone who has never played before and wants to learn a new skill whilst having fun, please give it a try.

The group will be on Tuesdays, 3.00 to 4.00pm at The Whitton Community Centre. For more information and to enrol please contact:

Gabriela Cattani at [gabrielacattani@aol.com](mailto:gabrielacattani@aol.com) or

Ruth Rouse at [ruthrouse55@gmail.com](mailto:ruthrouse55@gmail.com)

#### **3. New Bridge Group**

This new group will meet fortnightly on Mondays from 2 - 4pm in the group leader's home in East Sheen.

Please contact Barbara Szivos on 07913 312 159 for further details.

#### **4. Proposed LGBT group.**

Beverley Kemp has been wondering if there would be any interest in such a group within Richmond u3a. Please contact Beverley if you are interested at

[reachme@bkemp.co.uk](mailto:reachme@bkemp.co.uk)

## **AGM and Committee**

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on 25<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30pm at St Mary's Church before the usual Monthly Meeting. All current members of the Committee are happy to stand again for election but there is an opportunity for a new member to join with a particular brief of booking the Speakers for our Monthly Meetings.

If you would be interested in this position please let one of the Committee know and/or apply to join the Committee at the end of this month when papers for the AGM will be distributed to the membership.

## **Safeguarding Policy and Complaints Procedure**

Following guidelines from the National organisation a Safeguarding Policy for Richmond u3a has now been agreed and will shortly be posted to our website.

All members are requested to read this policy and be aware of its requirements.

Similarly, a Complaints Procedure has now been agreed and will also be posted to our website. Please ensure that you are aware of both these policies.

## **Radio Podcast**

The February episode of the u3a radio podcast goes live on the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month and includes the following interviews: the author Dawn Lawrence talks about her work for the charity Born Free (aka Elsa the Lion from the famous film) and why the future of wild animals concerns us all, we find out how u3a volunteers played a key role in restoring an historic windmill in the village of Meopham in Kent and reopening it to the public and John Butler, a u3a expert on Tech matters, talks about how he is using artificial intelligence (AI), to make music and has now created over 80 songs. Go to [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk)

## **London Region of u3as Walks and Visits Programme - April and May 2026**

Many of you may not be aware that Richmond upon Thames u3a is one of 43 u3as in the London area that together comprise the London Region of U3As (LRU3A) network. The role of the LRU3A is to support the 43 London u3as and provide a forum for communication and dissemination of best practice. You can find full details of their various activities on their web site, [lru3a.u3asite.uk](http://lru3a.u3asite.uk). They organise many events including a programme of walks led by members that are open to all u3a members.

The London Region is delighted to announce the next full programme of walks and gallery visits for April and May. All events are £10, no refunds.

All of the walks/gallery visits have proved very popular and been fully booked almost as soon as advertised. So don't delay book up on launch day. There will of course be waiting lists for each session.

The sessions from April will launch on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March  
Sessions for May will launch on Thursday 16th April

This and all future events can be found on the Events page of the London Region website at [www.lru3a.u3asite.uk/events](http://www.lru3a.u3asite.uk/events)

### **Festival 2026 booking now open!**

u3a Festival is back – the biggest celebration of the curiosity, creativity and community spirit that makes u3a so special. Join us for three days of hands-on workshops, musical performances, sports tournaments, fascinating talks and many more surprises

Tickets are limited - book now and avoid disappointment!



1-3 July 2026



University of York



Tickets cost £18 for a day, or £50 for all three days

Find all the details on the website at [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk)

### **Online Events**

u3a members can access a wide range of free online talks, workshops and courses through their membership. Most sessions are led by fellow members, sharing their expertise, with additional talks from notable speakers and organisations.

All events are bookable via Eventbrite. Please ensure you can attend when booking and cancel if you're unable to make it so others can participate. Events are exclusively for u3a members. Sign up to our events mailing to get our monthly online events straight to your inbox.

For more details go to the website at [www.u3a.org.uk/learning/](http://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/)