



Banstead Area March 2025 Bulletin

February is nearly over, thank goodness, it's been biblical!

Our first quiz night in February, organised by our fantastic social team, was a great success with nearly 100 members and friends attending and thoroughly enjoyed by all. The quiz master asked for his fee to go to charity, MND (Motor Neurone Disease) the East Surrey Branch, which was gratefully received by them.

The speaker giving the talk on the 19th, Great American Songbook was cancelled due to ill health with only a few days' notice! We were incredibly lucky to have a member, Mary Forlenza to step in and entertain us with Great Lovers of History, Mary had us all laughing and informed, from the off. Mary will be giving another talk to us in February 2026. We were also entertained over teas and coffees, ably served by our helpers, by a very talented singer Charley Coin, who will be singing for us again in April.

In the interest of making life easier for all, we are re-assessing our workload and making a few changes.

The first is our monthly bulletin, you will still receive Dates for your diary to print off as an attachment and the Chair's address but now we have our new website up and running, all the information we have is on there. So please,

Click here: <https://bansteadarea.u3asite.uk>

Please have a good look at what we have to offer when you have time.

We are also going to run our events without having to reserve seats, this I hope will be easier for you and for us to administer. We will still take your names on entry, for hall fire regulations and money on the door as usual.

Our New members and Coffee mornings will be held from March in The Park Life Café (see diary attached) Lady Neville recreation ground. This will save us from requesting people to serve teas. Water will be provided but as we are lucky enough to get the room, free of charge, for our own personal use once a month, please buy your own tea or coffee if you would like one.

Looking forward to seeing you on 1st March at our Ruby Celebration of our 40 years of being a u3a, one of the oldest in the country. If not maybe at our very special Odette Ellicott talk on the 19th March by Tom Hart Dyke, members only event.

Best regards

Jennifer

Chair u3a Banstead Area



Dates for the diary

Date	Event	Speaker	About
Wednesday 19th March 2.30pm (Doors open at 2pm)	Odette Ellicott Plants for sale from Tom's World Garden. Members only event	Tom Hart Dyke	Tom will be entertaining us with his travels, his world garden and horticultural expertise. Free event for members.
Monday 24th March 9.30-10.30am 10.30am-12.00	New Members' Induction Members' coffee morning	New Venue: Park Life Cafe, Lady Neville recreation ground, Banstead, SM7 2PA	Find out about, upcoming events, meetings, groups to join and how you can be involved. A social time to meet other members, meet and make new friends.
Saturday 26th April 7.30-10.15pm (Doors open at 7pm)	An Evening of Song	Epsom Male Voice Choir and special guest singer Charley Coin	This is a bring-your-own event (food, drink and glasses). This event is open to Banstead Area members for £5.00. Other u3a members and guests are very welcome for a £10.00 entry fee. No booking required, please pay at the door.
Monday 28th April 9.30-10.30am 10.30-12.00	New Members' Induction Members' coffee morning	New Venue: Park Life Cafe, Lady Neville recreation ground, Banstead, SM7 2PA	Find out about, upcoming events, meetings, groups to join and how you can be involved. A social time to meet other members, meet and make new friends.
Wednesday 7th May 7.30pm (Doors open at 7.00pm)	Banstead Arts Festival – sponsored by Banstead Area u3a	Milestone Big Band	A musical evening of jazz and swing with a 17-piece live band. Tickets will be available to purchase for £15.00 online via the Banstead Arts Festival website https://bansteadarts.org.uk or from Banstead Library.
Wednesday 11th June 2.30pm (Doors open at 2pm)	The Legend of the White Mouse – Nancy Wake – A truly remarkable spy	Paul Barwick	The remarkable true story of a highly successful secret agent of the Special Operations Executive who lived with the daily threat of death at the hands of the Gestapo during World War 2. Free event to Banstead Area u3a members. £3.00 for other u3a members and guests.
Saturday 14th June 9.00am-12 noon 2.00-5.00pm	Banstead Area u3a Open Gardens		£5 per member for both gardens, tickets available on the door. Morning - Jennifer's Garden, 53 Commonfield Road SM7 2JR Afternoon – Anne's Garden, 16 Sutton Lane, SM7 3QP. Tea and cake available to purchase.
Monday 23rd June 9.30-10.30am 10.30-12.00	New Members' Induction Members' coffee morning	New Venue: Park Life Cafe, Lady Neville recreation ground, Banstead, SM7 2PA	Find out about, upcoming events, meetings, groups to join and how you can be involved. A social time to meet other members, meet and make new friends.
Wednesday 17th Sept 2.30pm (Doors open at 2pm)	Membership Renewal and Groups Showcase		Opportunity to renew membership, join the u3a and find out what groups and activities are available. No Speaker - our opportunity to showcase the branch and drive recruitment.
Unless otherwise stated the venue is Banstead Community Hall, Park Road, Banstead SM7 3AJ. Free Parking.			