

September Bulletin 2026

Bansteadarea.u3asite.uk

A Few Thoughts

This is my penultimate bulletin for our u3a, and I have been thinking about what a difference it has made to my life.

I have made firm friendships with people I would never have met if it hadn't been for this wonderful organisation. We have all led long and eventful lives — not all of them good, of course — but we can share both the good and the bad with friends, and support each other along the way.

Family is all well and good, but they haven't necessarily experienced the many changes we have lived through during our long lives. There is something very special about talking to people who understand, because they have been through many of the same things themselves.

Where else would you go to meet new people at our stage of life? Not at the school gate, not at work, and probably not at the local pub!

With over 900 members in our u3a, if you make the effort, I am sure you will find at least one or two people you really gel with. So, if you are new, I hope you will join some groups, come along to one of our evening dos, and dance like nobody's watching — because they're not! Let your hair down (if you still have some; if not, bring along a long wig!).

Enjoy the cooler weather, and most of all, enjoy the company of the wonderful people around you. And keep on keeping on.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Surrey Network Courses

The next meeting online or in person is on Friday 18th September 2026 - [The Bayeux Tapestry: Its Creation & Its Interpretation](#) presented by Imogen Corrigan. To book and see full details, click the above link. Courses take place at Menuhin Hall, Stoke d'Abernon.

There is also online learning advertised on the u3a national website. To access these courses, please click [here](#).

Refunds for events: These will be handled by the treasurer and will only be made for the following reasons:

- If a member from the waiting list can fill the space.
- If the event is cancelled by the organiser either by Banstead u3a or an external organiser.
- At the discretion of the Executive Committee for compassionate reasons.

This is an extract from the Banstead Area u3a [Finance Policy](#) which can be found on the Governance page of our website.

Groups with Spaces - Dance2BFit

Thursday morning at Banstead Methodist Church Hall, The Drive, at the new time of 10.00 - 11.00am. If you enjoy dancing and would like a fun way to improve your fitness while meeting new people, this friendly group could be just what you're looking for.

There is a charge for this group for hall hire and a qualified instructor. If you are interested, please email the [Group Coordinator](#) Lynn Tripp

Creative Writing Group 2

This group would welcome new members. Meeting in members' homes on the 3rd Tuesday of the month 2.00pm - 4.00pm. If interested, please contact the [Group Administrator](#) Sarah Milan

Potential New Groups - One of our members John, is interested in setting up a new group to study The Odyssey, probably book by book. A maximum of 6 members and to take place in John's house. If you are interested in joining, please contact John Court - U3A@courtonline.co.uk

Russian Group - This has been suggested by a member who would be happy to host and Organise, but not lead this potential new group if there is enough enthusiasm in starting one. If this is of interest to you, please email our [Group Coordinator](#) Lynn Tripp

Save the Date!

Date	Event	Speaker	About
Wednesday 2nd September - 2.30pm (Doors open at 2.00pm)	Open Meeting - Joint Science Group - 'The Unification of the British Isles: A Lesson in Geology'	Talk by Martin Eales	u3a members £5.00/non-members £10.00. (includes Tea/Coffee). Pay on the door.
Wednesday 16th September - 2.30pm (Doors open at 2.30pm)	Membership Renewal / Groups Showcase / Recruitment	No speaker	An opportunity to renew membership join the u3a and find out what groups and activities are available. Our opportunity to showcase the branch.
Thursday 17th September - Leaving from Banstead Community Hall	Outing - Coach trip to Eastbourne	A few places left!	Coach trip to Eastbourne for Banstead Area u3a members only. Leaving from Banstead Community Hall at 9.00am and returning from Eastbourne Pier at 4.00pm. Cost for the coach is £20.00. To book your place email Kerry
Monday 28th September - 9.30am -10.30am 10.30am -12.00pm	New Members' Welcome Meeting. Members' coffee morning.	Venue: Park Life Cafe, Lady Neville Park.	Find out about, upcoming events, meetings, groups to join and how you can be involved. A social time to meet other members, and make new friends.
Thursday 8th October - Leaving from Banstead Community Hall	Outing - History Coach trip to Maldon, Essex		Coach trip to Maldon for Banstead Area u3a members only. Banstead Community Hall at 9.00am and returning from Maldon at 4.00pm. The cost will be £27.00 including entry to the museum. Please email Sue to reserve a place. She will then send you further details of the trip.
Saturday 10th October - 7.30pm (Doors open at 7.00pm)	Social Event - 70's/80's Dance Favourites Disco	With DJ Alex McMeekin of Time Tracks Disco.	70's/80's attire encouraged! A bring your own event, (food, drink, glasses). Members £5.00/Guests £10.00. To book your place, email Sue (pay on the door).
Wednesday 21st October - 2.30pm (Doors open at 2.00pm)	AGM followed by talk 'The Crop Circle Mystery'	Chair/Treasurer Speaker Andy Thomas	Chair and Treasurer Reports/Election of the Committee Andy Thomas' work on investigating the paranormal and global cover-ups with balance and discernment is world renowned. Members free.
Friday 4th December	Outing - Coach trip to Canterbury Christmas Market		Save the date - details to follow
Saturday 12th December - 7.30pm (Doors open at 7.00pm)	Social Event - Christmas Party	With band Atlantis	Save the date - details to follow

Unless stated the venue is Banstead Community Hall, Park Road, SM7 3AJ. Free Parking.

The Unification of the British Isles

A Lesson in Geology



Martin Eales BA, MA, PhD, FGS

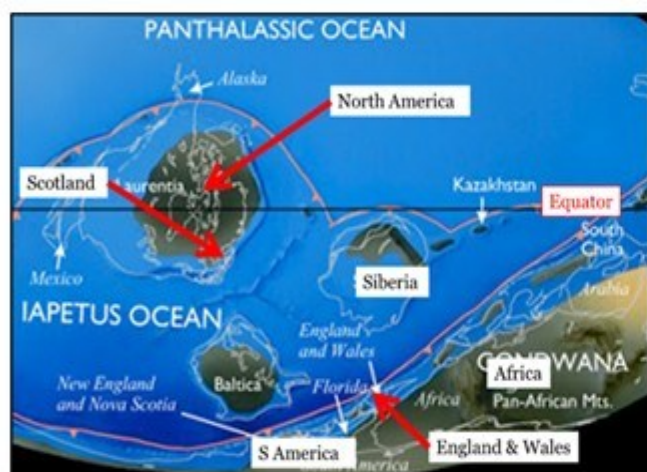
**Presented by Banstead, Epsom & Ewell and
Sutton u3a Science Group**

Wednesday 2nd September 2026, 2.30pm (doors open at 2pm)

Banstead Community Hall, Park Road SM7 3AJ

Free on-site parking

**£5 for any u3a members, £10 for non-members,
includes tea/coffee & biscuits**



Cambrian Palaeogeography c500 million years Closure of Iapetus Ocean Ordovician c450 million years)

A discussion of how England and Wales collided with Scotland, then Europe with Britain and finally the breakaway of America.

Some 500 million years ago, barmy Scotland was situated near to the equator. It was separated by a vast ocean from England and much of Europe, which lay close to the South Pole with ice sheets over the Sahara and Amazon.

England headed northwards and collided with Scotland around 400 million years ago, together with North America, to form a vast Himalayan-style Mountain belt. Southern Europe and Africa joined a little later (some 100 million years after) to form the super continent of Pangea.

Relatively recently (circa 50 million years ago) North America decided to break away and is currently hurtling westwards forming the growing Atlantic Ocean. America tried to take Britain along for the ride, initially causing a lot of volcanism in Scotland but failed, leaving Britain perched on the edge of Europe.

Groups Showcase and Membership Renewal



Meet our members
and find out what we do.

Wednesday
16 September
2.30pm

Join or renew your membership,
explore our fun and friendly interest groups.

From history to walking, from languages
to science to pickleball.

Start a new hobby and make new friends.



Banstead
Community Hall
Park Road
SM7 3AJ

u3a
learn, laugh, live

FANCY A TRIP TO THE SEASIDE?

u3a Banstead Area are organising a day out to Eastbourne.

The coach will be leaving from Banstead Community Hall, Park Road on 17th September at 9am and returning from Eastbourne Pier at 4pm.

Eastbourne has lots to offer from tea and cake on the pier, a hop-on, hop-off bus tour, the newly re-opened Dotto train along the seafront, to lunch on the Beach Deck, fish and chips at Harry Ramsden's or just an ice cream on the beach.

The cost for the coach is £20 each (Banstead u3a members only)

To book your place email u3a.banstead.mark@gmail.com



Maldon History & Wildlife Coach Trip

8th October 9am-6pm

u3a Banstead Area are organising a day out to Maldon in Essex. At a cost of £27 this trip includes return coach travel and entrance to The Combined Military Services Museum.

Email Sue Quigley u3a.banstead.events@gmail.com
to reserve a place on the coach.



The coach will also take you to the Promenade, to have a pub lunch on the Hythe (cost not included), where you can view the Historic Thames Barges. Take a walk along the Prom to the site of the Battle of Maldon 991AD where Byrhtnoth Ealdorman fought the Norse Vikings and lost. Ending the day with a chance to photograph the migrant waders on the Blackwater Estuary.

Leaving from and returning to Banstead Community Hall, Park Road SM7 3AJ

70s & 80s Disco Night

Saturday 10th October



£5

Banstead u3a members

£10

non-members

**Bring your
own drinks,
glasses
and
nibbles**

**All your dance
favourites**

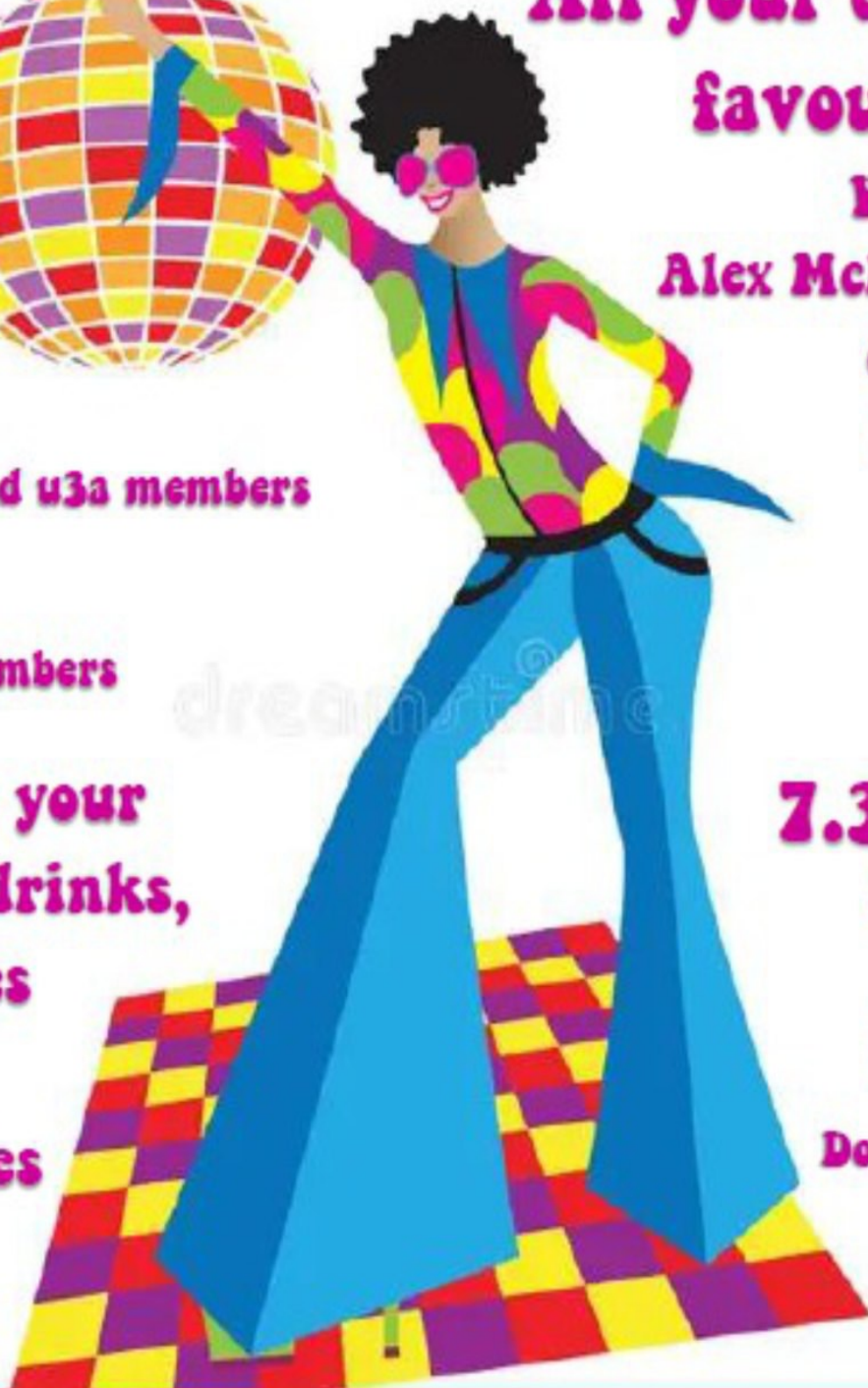
**With DJ
Alex McMeekin
of Time
Tracks
Disco**

7.30pm

**Dancing
starts**

7pm

Doors open



To book email [Sue u3a.banstead.events@gmail.com](mailto:Sue%20u3a.banstead.events@gmail.com)

Banstead Community Hall, Park Road SM7 3AJ