



October Bulletin 2026

bansteadarea.u3asite.uk

Dear Members,

The beautiful weather continues, and I'm so thankful for the little bit of rain we've had - our gardens have perked up no end!

We had a very successful Showcase of our Groups. A big thank you to everyone who came along and helped to run it. There was quite a queue at the Grumpy Men's table - I never knew we had so many grumpy men in our u3a!

The Eastbourne coach trip started off very rainy, as usual, but thankfully the sun came out after tea and cakes. They even came home with the same number of members they left with - thank goodness!

The next time I see you all will be at the AGM on 21st October, when you will be electing a new Chair, Business Secretary and Social Team Organiser.

It has been an immense pleasure being your Chair for the last three years. We have achieved a great deal in a very short time, and I am very proud of everything we have accomplished together.

Many thanks to everyone who has given their time, help and support over the last three years. We couldn't do it without you, and I have truly appreciated all your hard work.

I wish the new committee every success for the future, and I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM.

Kindest regards,

Jennifer Russell, Chair, Banstead Area u3a

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 Banstead u3a or an external organise
- At the discretion of the Executive Committee for compassionate reasons

This extract from the Banstead Area u3a Finance Policy can be found on the Governance page of our website.

Membership renewals

Membership renewals were due on 1st September for all members who joined before 1st June this year, but there are still some members who have not sent their renewal subscription of £15 (£10 for Associate members). All those who have renewed have been sent an email confirming receipt of their payment and an updated membership card attachment. If you have not seen yours, please check both your Inbox and your Spam or Junk folder.

If you have not yet renewed, there will be an opportunity to pay **before the start** of the AGM on 21st October, between 2.00 pm and 2.20 pm, or you can still renew by bank transfer, using the details given in the renewal request email and on the website under Join/Renew.

Houses of Parliament Trip

Rebecca Paul, our MP has kindly arranged another tour of the Houses of Parliament, including a tour of the House of Commons and House of Lords, for members of Banstead U3a on Monday 2nd November at 12 noon for 25 people.

Members must make their own way to and from Westminster for the tour, which will last for approximately 75 minutes.

At the end of the tour, we are hoping that Rebecca will be able to meet the Banstead U3a team at 1.20pm to say hello and answer any questions.

We expect this to be a very popular tour and we must therefore operate a strict first come, first served basis of application. If you wish to go on this tour and haven't attended a previous Houses of Parliament tour with the U3a, please contact [Ian Hack](#) One application per member please.

There will be small £5.00 administration charge for successful applicants. Details to follow once your interest has been registered.

Reading for Pleasure Group

Meeting 3rd Thursday monthly in members' homes, are looking for two new members. If interested, please contact [Audrey Wilson](#)

Save the Date!

Date	Event	Speaker	About
Thursday 8th October - Leaving from BCH at 9.00am and returning from Maldon at 4.00pm.	Outing - History Coach trip to Maldon, Essex	For Banstead Area u3a members only.	The cost is £27.00 including museum entry. Please email Sue Quigley to reserve a place
Saturday 10th October - 7.30pm (Doors open at 7.00pm)	Social Event - 70's/ 80's Dance Favourites Disco. 70's/80's attire encouraged!	With DJ Alex McMeekin of Time Tracks Disco	A bring your own event (food, drink, glasses). Banstead members £5.00/ Guests £10.00. To book your place, email Sue Quigley (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/Treasurer reports. Committee. Elections. A talk on Crop Circles. Members free
Monday 26th October 9.30 - 10.30am 10.30 - 12.00 Noon	New Members' Welcome Meeting Members' Coffee Morning	Venue: Park Life Cafe, Lady Neville Park	Find out about all things u3a Meet other members and make friends
Monday 2nd November - 12.00 noon	Trip to the Houses of Parliament		Members must make their own way to and from Westminster - details on page 1
Wednesday 4th November - 2.30pm (Doors open at 2.00pm)	Science Group - 'From Frogs to Fields'; Michael Faraday	Laurence Scales	u3a members £3.00/ Non-Members £10.00. Pay on the door
Friday 4th December - Leaving BCH at 9.00am and returning at 4.30pm.	Outing - Coach trip to Canterbury Christmas Market	For Banstead Area u3a members only.	The cost is £20.00. Please email Kerry Garner to book a seat.
Saturday 12th December - 7.30pm (Doors open at 7.00pm)	Social Event - Christmas Party	With live Band Atlantis	A bring you own event (food, drink and glasses) Banstead members free/Non-members £10.00. To book your place, email Sue Quigley (pay on the door)

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

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

Banstead Community Hall, Park Road SM7 3AJ

The Crop Circle Mystery

Wednesday 21st October

2.30pm (doors open at 2pm)

Banstead Community Hall

Park Road SM7 3AJ

Free on-site parking

For Banstead Area u3a members only.

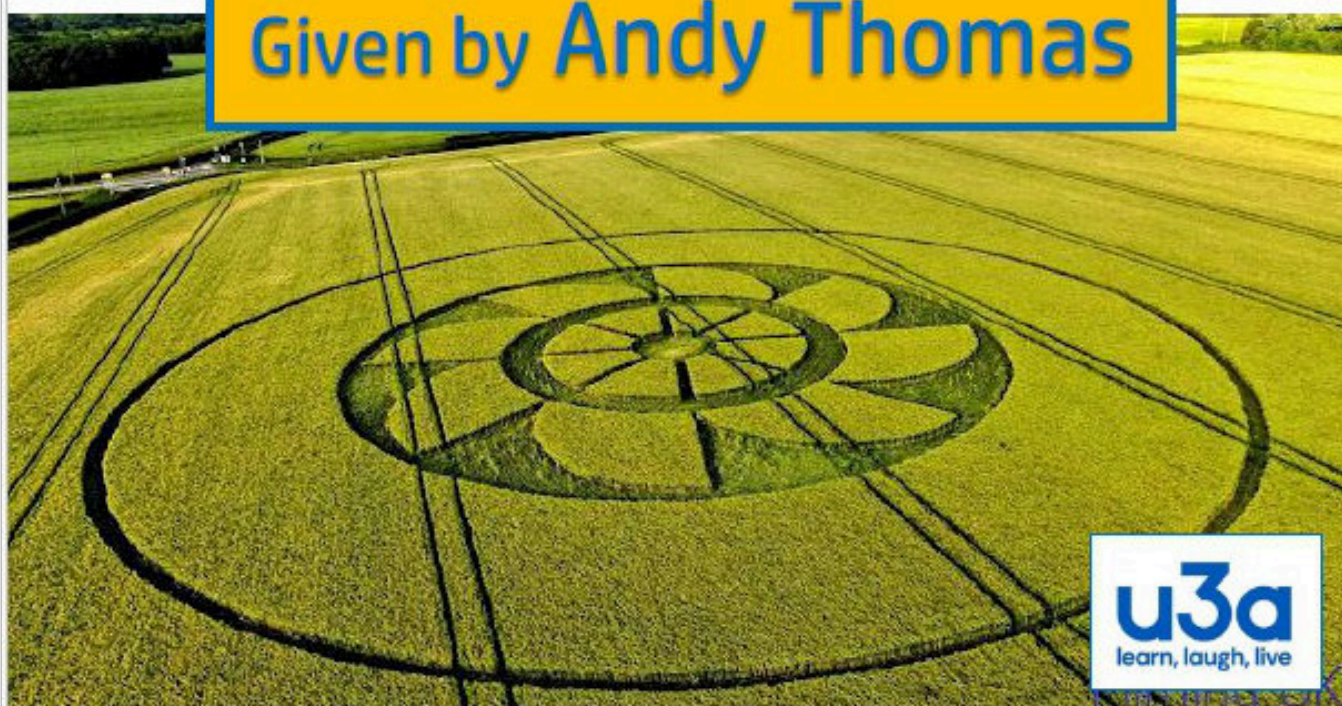
Includes tea/coffee

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

This talk will follow the AGM.

Andy Thomas is one of Britain's most prolific authors and lecturers on mysteries and histories. His work on investigating the paranormal and global cover-ups with balance and discernment is world renowned, and he is respected for making it entertaining and accessible.

Given by Andy Thomas



u3a
learn, laugh, live

AGM followed by Talk

Banstead u3a Christmas coach trip
Friday 4th December

England's Most
Festive Christmas Market
Canterbury



Leaving Banstead Community Hall at 9.30am returning at 4.30pm

To book your seat contact Kerry
u3a.banstead.mark@gmail.com

Cost £20 per person

Saturday 12 December

Doors open at 7pm – Band on stage at 7.30pm

Christmas PARTY



Atlantis will perform a lively selection of popular hits from the 1960s and 1970s including some festive gems

Bring your own drinks, glasses and nibbles

FREE ENTRY FOR BANSTEAD U3A MEMBERS
£10 NON MEMBERS

To book email Sue via u3a.Banstead.events@gmail.com

BANSTEAD COMMUNITY HALL, PARK ROAD SM7 3AJ