



Weston Turville U3A Newsletter

May 2017



NEWS FROM THE CHAIRMAN: I wish to thank you for re-electing me as your Chairman and I look forward to working with you all in this next year. A new committee has elected and roles and responsibilities are being discussed but we will update you next month as soon as we know who is doing what! I have to report that Mary Duly is standing down from the Trips group having been involved with organising main U3A trips since our inception in 2010. I know that lots of you have enjoyed the results of Mary's work and on behalf of us all, I wish to offer my thanks to Mary and hope she enjoys her new found freedom. Mary will still organise the main U3A Christmas meal and remains our membership secretary, so she will not be far away. Ann Edwards has agreed to assist with the Trips, welcome Ann! We have decided that we will no longer produce the yellow book for members. This decision has been made after receiving feedback from several members and from discussions with adjoining U3A's. The yellow book is expensive to produce and it would appear that very few of you use it, finding it easier to ring or contact someone you know or search our website which has all the information on it. We ask that you safely destroy the contents of the book that has anyone's personal details on i.e. names, phone numbers or email addresses. The other pages can be recycled in the normal way. If you do not wish to use the folder for anything, please return it to Mandi Simons at the main meeting with or without contents. We will be sending out an information sheet shortly with contact details on and this will be recirculated as required.

At our June monthly meeting we will not be having a speaker. At your request we have are having a social afternoon at the rugby club which will include a free hog roast. However this gastronomic feast will be restricted to **members only**, so no family or friends or prospective members will be allowed admittance for this month. The meeting is from 1.30 to 4.30pm.

More details next month. Pat Housego

SPEAKER: Our next meeting is on Thursday 25th March where Timothy Walker is giving us a talk entitled 'Oxford Botanic Garden'. Please don't arrive before 2pm unless you want to help set it all up!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS: Last chance to renew your membership. Remember you must submit a membership renewal form even if you are paying by bank transfer. Mary Duly

TRIPS: There are still places available for our trip on **Friday 7th July to the English School of Falconry** where a day with all sorts of animals is planned including flying birds of prey if you want to: Leave WT. 9.15am and home again for tea! The cost is £42 which includes the morning coffee and lunchtime BBQ. For those persons nervous about flying birds there are plenty of other things to see and do. Please contact me for details; Mandi Simons.



CHESS FOR FUN: Players of any standard are welcome, including beginners, and if anybody would like to play draughts, we can accommodate that as well. We will meet on the third Wednesday of each month from 11.15 am to 12.45 pm, starting on **19 July** at Weston Turville Chapel. Geoffrey Howell Tel:614826 gphowell@btinternet.com

SCIENCE AND TECH GROUP: The Chatham Dockyard, 1st June arrangements are complete those going on these trips should have had details. There are still 3 spaces at £25.50 conc. and £27 Non Conc. including entry and coach. On the 6th July we gather at the Chapel hall for a talk about the 4 minute warning by Brian Horridge. This should complement Adrian's examination of our local contribution. Details of further meetings will be available nearer the date. John Beer.

GARDEN GROUP: If you have signed up for garden visits to Cedar House on Thursday June 15th and Hillesden House **NEW DATE** Thursday July 20th. Please pay in your cheques this month. We will meet at the Five Bells for car share. Meet at 1.50pm leave at 2pm. Garden visit 2.15pm. Limited to ten cars only. Lamport Hall, Northamptonshire. Our visit is on Tuesday August 15th. A guided tour of the garden has been arranged. A cream tea is included. The coach will leave Weston Turville Main Street bus stop at 11.45am. Total cost of visit is £24.50p. Please pay in your cheque on booking this month. Lamport is an example of changing garden fashions over the past four centuries. The gardens were featured by Country Life as early as 1898 and is also the home of the first garden gnome. There is a Museum of Rural Life (free). Gaynor Edwards

Remember to check the website www.wtu3a.org.uk for more up to date information and for any old newsletters and articles. Use the Search box or tag words on the right of the page. WTU3A has its own Facebook page with lots of photos on. Search for it, ask to join and within no time at all you could be viewing the albums.

VISITING CHURCHES GROUP: Our next visit will be in the afternoon of Tuesday 13th June to St Laurence, West Wycombe. Please confirm your name on our list of members at our table at the May monthly meeting if you intend to come along, or if you would like to enquire about joining our group. All welcome.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS: Friday May 26th. Marlborough, Avebury Manor House (N.T) and optional guided walk of the Stone Circle £4.0 on the day. Departing Chandos 8.50 shops 8.55am. On Friday 23rd June a visit to Cirencester and Rodmarton Manor. Cirencester has a lot of independent shops, Corinium museum with a lot of Roman finds and a superb church. Rodmarton Manor is a unique example of the Arts and Crafts movement We have a private tour with time to explore the eight acres of garden. Cost is £28.50 to include the tour and tea and cake. Depart Chandos 8.0 a.m. Shops 8.05

SOCIAL BRIDGE: There are spaces in the Social Bridge group for those people who would like to play or learn to play bridge but at a less intense level! Contact Carol Johnson for information.

EXTREME VISITS:



Extreme Buggies; 18th May – Trip Report. Trevor gathered an exclusive band of drivers and spectators in a field at Stratton Audley. Unexpectedly the weather was great which made the Rage Buggies and Honda Pilots even more fun and hugely different from the cars we arrived in. Apart from a husband and wife little bump, no accidents, no injuries and no bad backs afterwards. Following instruction and a few practice circuits we put in some timed runs. Trevor trounced us all, then beat us to the pub.

Extreme Aquatic Hovercraft; 18th July – Highcross Hovercraft. They are allowing us out over water (for those that graduate from the land based training) for our return visit to Highcross Hovercraft. This adventure has proved hugely popular but at time of writing has no waitlist. Lunch pre-orders now required. 30.00 per pilot; cheques payable to “Weston Turville U3A (Travel)” by May General Meeting.



Extreme Coracle Regatta; 28th August – Ironbridge. We have been provided with an offer that seems hard to ignore. The Ironbridge Coracle Trust have their Regatta on August 28th and are offering ourselves and Bath U3A a one hour regatta of our own within their programme (The one hour includes one minute of instruction). The price would be £20, £10 to the Trust plus £10 to a Cancer charity.

It seemed a fitting tribute to the memory of Pamela Galloway of Bath U3A and Eddie Bufton of Weston Turville U3A who have each left us recently and far too soon. Extreme Aficionados will remember both as keen participants of events such as the Spinnaker Abseil, Blokarting at Weston Super Mare and the Zipwire in North Wales. As they kept repeating "... It's not a competition!!!" before throwing themselves wholeheartedly into the events. They are both sorely missed. They embodied the spirit of the U3A personified "Live, Laugh, Learn".



Few logistics available at this time (we are hoping it's about a 2 hour drive), but if you are child/dog minding (it's the August Bank Holiday Monday) do bring them along. RSVP.

We'd also like to hear if 1) you would be interested in building this into a 2-day event around Telford including an activity on 29th and any suggestions for what. 2) If you would be interested in a subsequent Coracle event that included building your coracle. 3) if you are a qualified lifeguard with a canoe!

For an Extreme experience or to add to our photo album, contact the Extreme Team at extreme@WTU3A.org.uk Tel 0777 150 6055

OVERSEAS NEWS: Weston Turville Village Fete: As you are aware because no one wanted to help run a U3A stand at the fete we will not be represented this year. However Susan Conolly, (who will be cunningly disguised as Mystic Meg on the day), has asked if any U3A member has a bottle of wine they would like to donate as a prize? If you can help please contact Susan directly on creative@wtu3a.org.uk or 01296613099

Risborough U3A Science and Technology Group are visiting the Building Research Establishment at Watford on the morning of Tuesday 30 May 2017. Travel by minibus: depart from Princes Risborough 9 am return from Watford 12.30 pm. Cost £12. We have one place remaining for the visit. If any Weston Turville U3A members would like further information and to join us please email David Brown at info@risboroughu3a.org.uk

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