



# Weston Turville U3A Newsletter

January 2018

**MESSAGES FROM THE CHAIRMAN:** Christmas has passed, the New Year is already nearly a month old and most of the U3A groups are up and running as normal after a festive break. There is a lot of information for you this month! Sadly we have lost three interest groups since Christmas: the Film Group and Play reading Group have closed because the current leader is no longer in a position to continue and no one was prepared to take it over. The Creative Writing Group has closed for other reasons. The good news is that the Antique Group is thinking about restarting under a different format and we will update you when we know what is happening. The 2018 membership renewals are due in April/May and notices will be distributed nearer the time. No payment will be accepted before 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 due to changes in charity rules. The Next of Kin cards mentioned last month have arrived and it has been decided to issue them with the membership renewals to minimise costs.

The National U3A has made some changes to the wording of the aims and objectives of the U3A and we have to vote on whether we accept the new form of words before March 2018. In order to conduct the required vote, we are incorporating an Extraordinary General Meeting into our February monthly meeting to take place before the notices and speaker. If we do not accept the newly worded objective we will no longer be able to run as a U3A and will cease to be. You will be sent out the necessary information prior to the meeting. The new wording will not directly affect any groups within this U3A. Pat Housego

**MONTHLY MEETING:** Our next meeting is on Thursday 25th January where we have a talk by Tony Eaton entitled "Failed to Return" about Amy Johnson and Leslie Howard. As always please don't arrive before 2pm unless you are going to help in setting up the hall.

**TRIPS:** I have at last managed to arrange the long awaited day trip to Charterhouse in London on



Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April and the cost will be £42 (TBC). A £15 deposit is required to secure your place as there is a restriction on numbers. I have combined this 'Brothers tour' of Charterhouse (first opened in 1348) with a guided tour called 'Faith, Hope & Charity' which tells the story of philanthropy in London from the monastic dole to the alms-houses and the rise of the Victorian philanthropists and hear of a panoply of philanthropists including George Peabody, Dr. Barnardo, Fred Charrington and General Booth. Charitable work was a rare way for middle

class women, especially in the nineteenth century to undertake useful and challenging work so we also learn about Clara Grant's Farthing Bundles and the prison work of the Quaker Elizabeth Fry. We stop for lunch at Smithfield's where there is a selection of eating establishments before starting the tour of Charterhouse.

Home by teatime! Note: there is no food or drink included in this trip so either bring your own or purchase at cafes or pubs in Smithfield's. The price includes return coach trip, guided tour by blue badge guide and guided tour at Charterhouse. Sign up at January monthly meeting. Mandi Simons

**SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:** The next meeting is on 1st February in the Chapel Hall at 2:30. Paul Brown will be telling us "Why Things Move" - this will be interesting, quirky and enjoyable. On 7th and 13th March we have a morning trip for a 9.30am start at the Waterside Theatre, Aylesbury for a look behind the scenes at the equipment and arrangements for a stage production. This event has proved very popular so we have had to split across two days. Cost is £4 and we have eleven vacancies. John Beer

**MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES:** Our train controller and station master has offered to put on an



additional one off game of dominoes for those people who may be shy and or do not know the game. The game does not require any adding skills and whilst not overly competitive; prizes are awarded at the end of each year for best and worst game scores. This event will be held on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January at 2pm if there is sufficient interest. Free tickets to travel can be obtained from Evie Nightingale at the monthly meeting or by contacting her through the link on the website. The

current passengers have consistently reported that the regular Wednesday game is more entertaining than travelling on either Chiltern or Virgin trains and it starts on time!

Remember to check the website [www.wtu3a.org.uk](http://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.

**GARDEN VISITS:** There are a few places left for our first garden visit to Meadow Cottage on Wednesday, February 28th. Please sign up at the January monthly meeting. We will leave the Five Bells, Main Street at 10.30am. Garden visit includes tea, coffee and biscuits. Pay on the day £6.50p. Directions and where to park will be available nearer the time.

Our March garden visit is to Cliveden, National Trust, Taplow SL1 8NS on Tuesday March 27th. We will meet at the Five Bells at 10.10am leave at 10.15am. Drivers needed please. Refreshments are available in the Orangery but I am unable to book any tables for the group. A garden tour is booked for the group at 11.15am the tour cost is £5.00p per person. Please bring along your NT membership card for garden entry. If you are not a N.T. member the cost is a special group price of £9.00.

**NEW.** You will need to scan your card at the Pay and display in N.T. car parks for a free parking ticket this year. Display your ticket on your dashboard. Gaynor Edwards

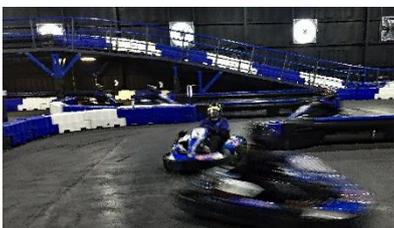
**OVERSEAS NEWS:** Risborough U3A is arranging a holiday to the Isle of Man departing Friday 14th September until Tuesday 18th September 2018 (4 nights). Based in Douglas at the Empress Hotel on the esplanade. Pick-up & drop-off in Princes Risborough. This 5-day (4 nights) tour includes: Return coach travel (same coach & driver throughout). Dinner, bed & breakfast each night. Free daily excursion programme. Costs: £575 per person (only twin and doubles available now) Insurance: £38.50 per person or your own personal travel insurance (compulsory) – must have repatriation cover. Contact Arthur Edwards Risborough U3A Travel Group Holiday Organiser Tel: 01844 342460

Also from Risborough U3A: I would like to inform your gardening group(s) about 2 lectures by Garden Historian, Joanne Kidd, which are to take place in the Spring and might be of interest to your members, poster attached. Wednesday 28th February 7.30 for 8.00pm “Green and Pleasant Lands” a history of British gardens from the Romans to Present Day. Wednesday 21st March 7.30-8.00pm “The Tradescants, Plant Collectors and Gardeners of the early 17th Century. The venue is Monks Risborough C of E Primary School, Peters Lane Monks Risborough HP27 9LZ. Entry will be £8.00 per lecture to include a complimentary glass of wine or soft drink. Ticket available from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-dunstans-church](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-dunstans-church) or from Sally’s sewing box Duke Street Princes Risborough.

Aston Clinton U3A Family History group has invited anyone interested to hear a talk on Tuesday 6th February by Ian Waller. He will be telling us how to prepare for a visit to the National Archives and also how to use Discovery their online catalogue. This will be held at Halton Village Hall at 2pm. A small charge will be made.

From the National U3A office: New TV series would like to speak to you. Plimsoll Productions are making a new TV series and have been in touch with U3A. They are keen to speak to any of our members, or members’ friends, who have recently experienced any issues regarding rogue tradespeople. If you’ve had a recent experience it would be great if you could get in touch with producer Clare Strudwick on 0117 307 2338.

### **Extreme “Extreme Karting revisited”; 2 March – Rogue Racing.**



Due to popular demand, we are re-running the Karting event at Rogue Racing. Possibly your first opportunity of 2018 to wear a helmet!

As before, 1 hour endurance in teams of 3 up to 10 karts. £25 per person.

Photo from an earlier successful U3A Extreme visit to Rogue Racing.

**driftlimits**  
MOTORSPORT ACADEMY

We will shortly be offering another helmet opportunity with Drift Limits at Bovingdon Airfield, watch this space.

For an Extreme experience or to add to our photo album, contact the Extreme Team at [extreme@WTU3A.org.uk](mailto:extreme@WTU3A.org.uk)

Tel 0777 150 6055

**Remember to check the website [www.wtu3a.org.uk](http://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.**