



Weston Turville U3A Newsletter

January 2021

Learn, laugh, live, learn, laugh, live, learn, laugh, live, learn, laugh, live, learn, laugh, live, learn, laugh, live, learn, laugh, live, learn.

A New Year message from our Chairman Well, I guess like everyone else, I'm glad to see the back of 2020. Hopefully we will get back on track in 2021, starting in Spring with a bit of luck. In the meanwhile, I hope you are able to join in to the Monthly Meetings via Zoom, details will be published in the monthly newsletters and on our Facebook page. Best wishes for 2021. Ken Shaw

General Meetings. Another reminder that our general meetings for 2021 will be on the fourth Thursday of each month (except December) so these are the dates for your diaries: **28th January, 25th February, 25th March, 22nd April, 27th May, 24th June, 22nd July, 26th August, 23rd September, 28th October and 25th November.**

Obviously at present we cannot tell you when we will be returning to the Rugby Club so until then we will continue to use Zoom.

The first meeting of the year is on **Thursday 28th January** with a talk entitled *Great British Eccentrics & Rogues* given by Paul Robbins. He is experienced presenter, historian and author who will give a highly amusing talk which looks at some of the World's great eccentrics & Rogues who just happened to be British!

Thames Valley Network News The TVN is holding a quiz on Zoom which all U3A members can take part in. It will be held on **Wednesday 3rd February** at 2.00pm and participants will be randomly divided into teams. To register you need to email: tvnquiz@gmail.com giving your name(s) and stating you belong to Weston Turville U3A. Closing date for entries is Saturday 30th January. Details of the Zoom log-in will be sent shortly afterwards.

Another TVN event is Music from the Musicals which is an online presentation by radio presenter Clive Aronson. It is on **Tuesday 23rd February** at 10.30am and registration is £3 per device. The session will be illustrated with music both visual and on audio. Further details are on our website or from fay.sinai@icloud.com

Vaccinations You will probably be aware that Covid-19 vaccinations have now started in Aylesbury and many of our members will be invited to Stoke Mandeville Stadium – some are also going to the Odeon Cinema in town. We have been asked to remind you that your GP will either call you or send a letter of invitation. Please do not call the GP or go to a vaccination site without an invitation. There is an easy to read guide to the vaccination on our website: www.wtu3a.org.uk

Did you know? Apparently if your income is under £16000 a year you can claim a 50% reduction in your water bill. Contact your water provider for more details.

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.

Gift Aid A big chunk of our income comes from members' Gift Aid declarations. This year there are less people signing up to Gift Aid so if you are a taxpayer and haven't yet completed a declaration please contact our Treasurer, Mike Bennett on:

treasurer@wtu3a.org.uk

Free presentations for U3A members A free online presentation started recently and runs through each week until the end of March. The creative classes for older people are:
Mondays at 3pm - Feel Good Moves (using the power of dance and movement to create a positive sense of physical and emotional wellbeing.

Tuesdays at 11am – Learn to draw

Thursdays at 11am – Singing with Vessie. An exploration of song from different genres and learning about different styles of singing.

Fridays at 11am. The Sound Healing Spa. A relaxation experience.

Further details on our website or from www.greysnet.com

We mentioned last month that Mirthy broadcasts educational and entertaining online talks by the best public speakers. Several of our members have registered and have found the talks very interesting. A free talk is broadcast every Thursday. Anyone interested can register for these free talks on <https://mirthy.co.uk/talks/> or use the link from our website.

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

Patchwork & Quilting Members may remember that two years ago funds were raised at the monthly meeting for the Patchwork and Quilting group to purchase materials to make quilts for Linus, the charity providing quilts to sick and disadvantaged children and young people. Lockdown provided the perfect opportunity for more quilts than ever to be made and these will shortly be distributed in our local area. A virtual sewing day is arranged for the end of January and several members of the Patchwork Group will be involved, this time concentrating on making quilts suitable for boys but it can be difficult to find material appealing to them. However, with ideas to use denim and logos from tee-shirts we hope to make some attractive quilts even these discerning young people would like. So, a virtual sewing day on zoom something new for all of us to experience! More details from Maureen Reeves on quilting@wtu3a.org.uk

Book Group 3 The group has continued to meet via Zoom each month. Members take it in turns to select a book for us to read. Over the past year among others we have read the following: *The Boys in the Boat* – Daniel James Brown, *Final Minute* – Simon Kernick, *A Gentleman in Moscow* – Amor Towles, *The Other Hand* – Chris Cleave, *The Secret Scripture* – Sebastian Barry, *1984* – George Orwell, *Fifty Fifty* – Steve Cavanagh.

We are currently reading *The Thursday Murder Club* - Richard Osmond, and have these two lined up for February and March: *The Sellout* – Paul Beatty and *Ali and Nino* - Kurban Said So you can see we cover a wide selection and are looking forward to getting back to normal and visiting each other's houses again! We currently have six members but one of our members is sadly leaving us so if anybody would be interested in joining us, please let me know – you would be most welcome. More details from our Speaker Secretary, Simon Evers or on bookclub3@wtu3a.org.uk

Walking Although there are none of our walks scheduled for the time being you may be interested to know that some historical walks of London are available on Zoom. They are run by Blue Badge guides and cost around £6 each. Details of forthcoming "walks" are available from www.footprintsofLondon.com They come highly recommended.

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