



Weston Turville U3A Newsletter

June 2020

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

Chairman's update: I'm not sure what day it is or how long we have been in Lockdown and I guess I'm not alone, everything seems to have merged into one long routine. However, the garden is benefiting from more attention than it has ever had before, unlike my hair!

The committee is meeting monthly via Zoom so that we can keep things ticking over for when we are able to meet again. We have started thinking about how meetings and Groups might be able to function and what suitable venues may be available when things are relaxed some more.

One very important item we discussed is membership renewal. The Committee have agreed that membership be allowed to run on past the usual renewal date (April) until we are able to hold our next meeting, whenever that may be. So please hold onto your 2019/2020 membership card for a little longer. If you have already paid your membership subscription for 2020/2021 please be assured that this will be carried forward. Finances are thankfully healthy and our treasurer Mike Bennett is keeping a close watch on things.

Hopefully you are having a look at our website <http://www.wtu3a.org.uk> which contains useful information including online events and talks that are planned. The site is being actively maintained by our webmaster, Heather Macknight. At the same time our speaker secretaries (Heather Marshall and Simon Evers) are looking into the possibility that some of our planned speakers might be able to offer video talks.

By now we should have held our AGM, however, this has not been possible. We are considering the options, which includes the possibility of not holding an AGM this year. In any event we will publish a set of accounts that have been examined and also provide the chairman's annual report. More on this in the next newsletter.

Please stay alert and safe.
Ken Shaw

Local U3A member *(sobbing her heart out, eyes swollen, nose red "I can't see you any more, I am not going to let you hurt me like this again."*

Trainer *"It was a sit up and you only did one."*

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.

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

Book Club 1 There is a new leader for Book Club 1 in Jean Alexander who can be contacted at bookclub1@wtu3a.org.uk

Book Club 3 Thanks to Zoom, Book Club 3 is still going despite the lockdown. Further information from Lisa Smith on bookclub3@wtu3a.org.uk

Garden Visits The Thenford Arboretum visit has now been rearranged for Friday 14th May 2021 so make a note of it now, Further details will be out at the start of next year. The group leader is Mary Duly on: gardens@wtu3a.org.uk

Trusted tradespeople Although this isn't a group it is a service we provide for our membership. Our database of tradespeople contains details of members' recommendations of those who have provided excellent service. So if you want to have anyone added or need to get details of people our members have been impressed with please contact Rosemary Williams on trusted@wtu3a.org.uk

Tax, Care and Toy Boys Some three years ago we had a light-hearted talk on "Tax, Care and Toy Boys" given by Co-op Estate Planning. They are now offering a free video talk for our members only. It will be similar presentation as the previous one, but will also include updates to reflect the current circumstances we are in. This is on Thursday 25 June at 3.00pm and to register you need to click onto: <https://coopep.webex.com/coopep/onstage/g.php?MTID=eaf6c60b64e69c6a10fab8acaa7f71630> Once registered you will receive an email with joining instructions.

Charity donation We are indebted to John Culling for much help and assistance in setting up a new I.T. management system which will be a great help to us. This system is already being used by numerous U3A branches in the area and is a very useful tool. The Committee has therefore agreed to make a charitable donation to Blood Cancer UK on John's behalf.

Third Age Matters magazine Several members have commented on how much better the magazine now is with plenty of interesting articles, news items and a more readable format as well as some thought provoking letters. The April edition also included an interesting letter from Heather Marshall on rescued dogs from abroad.

Was Nostradamus correct? In 1551 the philosopher and reputed seer wrote this; "There will be a twin year (2020) from which will arise a queen (*corona*) who will come from the east (*China*) and who will spread a plague (*virus*) in the darkness of night, on a country with seven hills (*Italy*) and will transform the twilight of men into dust (*death*), to destroy and ruin the world. It will be the end of the world economy as you know it."

"I hate it when people act all intellectual and talk about Mozart whilst they have never even seen one of his paintings."

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