



Weston Turville U3A Newsletter

March 2021

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

Next General Meeting. Our next meeting will be on Zoom on **Thursday 25th March** and the highlight will be a talk called **Tales of a Dairy Farmer's Wife**. It will be given by Jane Barnes who has been a prolific speaker to groups and clubs for nearly two decades. Her amusing stories, real life anecdotes and farming tales make for great listening. Being a dairy farmer's daughter, to meeting Mark at Young Farmers Club, to running her own dairy farm for the past 25 years, whilst bringing up a family, life has never been dull. Their children Charlotte (named after a favourite cow) and Harry (bred to be the next dairy man) have not only provided great material but also enlightened her life as a farmers' wife.

Prior to the talk there is a Special General Meeting and details of this have already been sent to you. The voting at this meeting will be by a show of hands.

The following meeting is scheduled for Thursday 22nd April.

Last General Meeting The presentation on Big Cats appears to have been enjoyed by all 50 attendees and we came away with more knowledge of the various types of cat and the presentation was enhanced by some superb photography.

Committee news We are holding our AGM as part of the May meeting. If anyone is interested in joining the committee they are welcome to contact Chairman, Ken Shaw (chairman@wtu3a.org.uk) for more details.

Memberships Your WTU3A membership is due for renewal on 1st April and it will cost £10 for the next year. As we come out of lockdown and reopen within the Government roadmap, the new lower price will be even better value for money. A letter with more information will be sent shortly.

Thames Valley Network News The next network study day is on **Wednesday 7th April** with a talk and demonstration "Saying It with Flowers" which explores the symbolic meanings given to flowers and how it affected floral arrangements during history. It is on Zoom from 10.30 to 12.30 and is a free event, although you need to book at least a week beforehand. Details are on their website: www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk or you can link from our website. Two days later (**Friday 9th April**) there is a quiz with a Springtime theme at 2.30pm with a free entry although you need to register at least a week beforehand using the above website. On **Wednesday 14th April** at 10.30am they are holding a presentation on the migration of birds. Again it's free and details are on their website.

Why I like retirement 1:

Question What do retirees call a long lunch? **Answer:** Normal.

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 Chairman Ken Shaw is holding a Zoom meeting with group leaders on Monday 22nd March at 11am to share information and to discuss the reopening of our groups. All group leaders have been sent login details.

Patchwork & Quilting 41 quilts made by group members - a magnificent total – were recently handed over to the Linus charity. Many went to Stoke Mandeville Hospital whilst others went to admirable charities such as St Albans Women’s Refuge, Action for Children in Rickmansworth and High Wycombe Refugees. Co-ordinators for all these charities have sent their thanks to all group members for this wonderful achievement. The group has also had some Zoom meetings including a demonstration of reverse applique circles! More details of what they are up to can be obtained from Maureen Reeves on quilting@wtu3a.org.uk

Petanque We are coming out of hibernation on **Monday 29th March**, no Government U-Turn and weather permitting. Dust off and polish those boules ready for the day. The venue will be the Rugby Club as before. More details, including the protocols we need to follow are available from Ken Shaw on petanque@wtu3a.org.uk

Trusted tradespeople Can you recommend any tradespeople to go on our lists? Although we don’t publish it, Rosemary Williams will add any suitable people to the list and she can let you know who has been recommended. If you need the information go to trusted@wtu3a.org.uk

Scam season There are still many scams going on and amongst the more recent ones are: Asking for views for a survey on the Pfizer vaccine in return for payment. IGNORE
National Insurance number has been breached and to call a certain number. IGNORE
Bank account has a strange transaction and to follow a link to rectify it. IGNORE
Message from BT Open Reach asking to check the router as the line will be cut off. IGNORE
Various messages from Amazon IGNORE
In light of all these scams our May general meeting will be given by a representative of NatWest Bank who will talk about Scam Awareness.

Back in 2019 Members may recall that in 2019 we had a talk by Keith Westcott, a metal detectorist and amateur archaeologist. He had long suspected that there could have been a large Roman villa in the grounds of Broughton Castle near Banbury, home to the Fiennes family. He said that although he had found traces of a villa which might have been almost as large as Buckingham Palace there was no funding for further excavations and surveys. Now, following the success of the programme Time Team, the show has received funding to resume on digital platforms later this year. The landowner Martin Fiennes says the site is of national importance and the creators of Time Team hope that as the first dig back the site will provide amazing evidence of mosaics, a bathhouse and perhaps even temples. Hopefully we will have him back sometime for an update.

Why I like retirement 2:

Question When is a retiree's bedtime? **Answer** Two hours after falling asleep on the couch.

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