



Weston Turville U3A Newsletter

June 2021

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

Last meeting We held our Annual General Meeting as part of our May meeting and, as usual, it passed quickly and without any major issues. The committee remains almost as before although we are sad to lose Heather Marshall after several years' great service, including a spell as Speakers Secretary. With Ken Shaw stepping down as Chairman (thankfully he remains as a committee member), Chris Bennett takes over the role. Jenny Hunt and Mike Bennett remain as Secretary and Treasurer respectively and we now have a new Vice Chairman in Simon Evers.

We also had an interesting presentation on scam awareness by Pamela Hayton from NatWest Bank which was certainly an eye-opener and left us with much to think about.

Next meeting If all goes to plan this will be the last Zoom meeting and features a talk by Dr Ian Bedford "Gardens from Us and Them". The presentation explains some of the easy things we can all do in our gardens to help protect our wildlife from global warming and climate change. It takes place on **Thursday 24th June** starting at 2.30pm.

Chairman's Report Hello everyone, I'm Chris Bennett. I have taken over as Chairman of Weston Turville u3a. We are still relative newcomers to the village, we moved here in 2012. "at the end of Bates Lane", "by the Church" or "near the Chequers" still doesn't mean too much to us, but we are getting there! The previous owner of our house was a member of u3a and recommended we join. This we did quite early on and have not regretted it one bit. I would like to begin by thanking Ken Shaw for his time as Chairman. I'm delighted that Ken will remain on the Committee, and he will continue to Chair our 10 Year Celebrations. I am also pleased to welcome two new members to the Committee, Sylv Elliot and Diana Connolly, both were co-opted on at this week's meeting.

We now know that freedom day, 21st June has been postponed for four weeks, but this does not affect our welcome back, "Picnic in the Park" event on the 22nd July. I do hope that as many of us as possible will meet in the grounds of Aylesbury Rugby Club. There will be live music, a bar and with some decent weather I think it will be a very pleasant afternoon. Finally, a gentle reminder to those who have not yet renewed their membership. Closing date is the 30th June and if you are able to, please don't forget Gift Aid, it's always good to get something back from the Tax Man!

And finally, finally, and I know this doesn't look good for the Zoom meeting that I host next week, but in some ways this is me and certainly my laptop!

My mind is like my internet browser

19 tasks open

3 of them frozen

And I have no idea where the music is coming from!

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.

Head Office news Despite the end of lockdown (we hope) there are still plenty of online events taking place including live cookery demonstration on Al Fresco Dining on Monday 21st June at 10.30am. This is your chance to make smoky aubergine soup, mushroom burgers and Austrian apricot cake. More events can be found on their national website or you can link from our own website.

Thames Valley Network More Zoom presentations are coming up shortly including one on Coventry Cathedral on the morning of 24th June and on Black Holes and the Transient Universe on Tuesday 29th June. Places need booking in advance and more information can be found on our site or on on: www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk

Trip Information The Tower of London visit is filling up quickly so if you haven't booked you should contact trips@wtu3a.org.uk or speak with Mandi Simons or Jayne Lennard if interested and pay a £30 deposit with the rest payable by the July general meeting

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

Extreme activities. Almost 30 members took on the challenge of riding a Zipp e-scooter recently and despite the rain it proved a great success with many really enjoying riding round the perimeter path of the Rugby Club at some speed. So will these scooters be seen on the streets of Weston Turville in the near future??

The next foray for the group is a Paddleboard experience on Watermead Lake in Aylesbury with two options at 5pm on **Tuesday 6th July** or **Wednesday 14th July**. With numbers limited early booking is necessary so contact Adrian Randall at extreme@wtu3a.org.uk if interested. All equipment is provided and the cost is just £20 for the 90 minute session. If anyone wants a meal afterwards at the Watermead Inn they should book in advance.

Church visits A reminder that the group has two visits planned; these are to All Saints Church in Wing on **Tuesday 13th July** at 2pm and then to St Michael's in Stewkley on **Tuesday 10th August** also at 2pm. Odette Harris will send details to everyone on her mailing list but if you want to be added contact her on: churches@wtu3a.org.uk

Walking The group restarted on Tuesday 8th June when 19 people enjoyed the 4.3 mile circular walk from the Squirrel pub in Penn Street. The route took us through an avenue of rhododendrons which were in full bloom. Afterwards most walkers enjoyed sitting in the pub's garden, in the sunshine, having a drink and a bite to eat. The next walk is scheduled for **Tuesday 13th July** and will be based at the Half Moon in Wilstone. Meet at the Chandos at 10am or go straight there. The walk is flat and has no stiles and will be a mixture of towpaths and fields. More details can be had from Sylv Elliott on walkers@wtu3a.org.uk

Garden Visits Hopefully garden visits will restart in the next few months and an announcement will be made at the July general meeting. For 2021 the visits will be relatively local so cars can be used. Mary Duly runs the group and needs to keep her mailing list updated so please email her on gardens@wtu3a.org.uk to make sure you are included on the list.

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