



# Weston Turville U3A Newsletter

July 2023

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

**Next meeting** Our next meeting is the Summer Lunch on **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July** at the Rugby Club. This is slightly different from our usual meetings with doors open at 1pm (please don't come before that time) and food served at 1.30. As the bar is open there will be no teas and coffees served but the book swap will be there. During the afternoon the Folk, Blues and Beyond Group will entertain us in their own inimitable style. Please remember this is a members only function and a few tickets (£5) are still available from Simon Evers our Membership Secretary, at 3 Watermill Way, Weston Turville, HP22 5SR. Don't forget your ticket – you will need it to get your food.

The following meeting is on **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August** at our usual time of 2.30pm.

**Last meeting** Last month we had a presentation by Tom Way who showed some of his marvellous photographs from his latest travels round the world and gave an insight into the patience needed to get these wonderful shots. Three weeks to get the brilliant picture of a water vole certainly shows considerable determination and patience!

**Chairman's Report** – Hello everyone. I was away for our last meeting but I believe we had problems once again, this time with the screen. As the talk was an illustrated one by the wildlife photographer, Tom Way, the screen was rather important! Tom is an outstanding speaker and photographer and I hope the problems didn't detract from what I am sure was an excellent talk. We will do our very best to make sure this sort of problem doesn't occur again.

This month's meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> July is our Summer Lunch. This is proving to be a hugely popular event and is almost sold out! By the time you read this you will literally have just a day or so to book your place. We need final numbers for our caterers.

Can I remind you that we have asked the Rugby Club to have their bar open and available, please support them and buy your drinks at the bar.

I look forward to seeing you all on the 27<sup>th</sup>, it's going to be a terrific afternoon, fingers crossed that the weather behaves!

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.

**Teas** Although there may have been some expressions of interest, we still don't have a co-ordinator to look after the teas at our general meetings. More details on this vital role from Lynn White at: [refreshments@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:refreshments@wtu3a.org.uk) or from Chairman Chris Bennett. We also need three or four people per month to help serve the teas so any offers to help would be appreciated. A signing up list is available at the hatch at each general meeting.

**Books** Those of you who attend our general meetings will be aware of the book, magazine and jigsaw swap that goes on. These are quite heavy things to bring to each meeting and at present Jenny Hunt is holding the fort and bringing them along until someone can be found to do it on a permanent basis. This could be a job share with one person, say, bringing the magazines and puzzles whilst another takes care of the books. If you can help please let Chris Bennett know at [chairman@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:chairman@wtu3a.org.uk) or speak to him at a general meeting.

**Doreen Lister** Members will be saddened to hear of the passing of Doreen Lister. She was one of the earliest members of this branch and regularly attended general meetings, groups and trips. Her funeral is at 2.30pm on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August at Limes Avenue Baptist Church in Aylesbury. All members and friends are welcome to attend.

### **NEWS FROM THE GROUPS**

**Trips** The proposed trip to Cambridge with afternoon tea in Granchester Gardens is virtually full. It is on **Monday 18th September** at a cost of not more than £50 each which includes coach (both ways) morning refreshments, blue badge guided tour of award winning mosque and butts of Cambridge and afternoon tea in the Gardens. Contact Mandi Simons on [trips@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:trips@wtu3a.org.uk) to see if there are any places left. In November (exact date to be finalised) there is a coach trip to Winchester to visit the famous Christmas Market. More details to follow or get in touch with Mandi for the latest news.

**Chess** There is a slight change to the dates of the Chess Group. They now meet on the second and fourth Friday of each month – everything else is as before. It is at the Chandos in the village and starts around 12.30pm. No particular ability for the game is required. Contact Geoffrey Howell at [chess@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:chess@wtu3a.org.uk) for more details.

**“July is like the sunniest hour of the day.”** — William C. Bryant

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**Science & Technology** The Beckonscot trip on 30<sup>th</sup> June was enjoyable despite the damp start to the evening and there is another evening trip planned – this time on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> August** where we meet at the Five Bells at 6pm before a visit to a collection of vintage buses. After the look round the lock up there will be a bus trip round Aylesbury. Numbers are strictly limited to 20 for this free event. The visit to BMW's factory in Oxford is now almost fully booked for **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September**. Tours are at various times during the afternoon and it costs £15 .There are also a few places left for the visit to the National Computer Museum at Bletchley Park on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October**. The cost is £23 for entrance and the guided tour starting at 2.00pm. Own transport will be needed to get there. We have a coach trip to the London Transport Museum in Acton on **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October**. It costs £40 for the coach and two guided tours of this wonderful museum. More details on all these visits from John Beer at: [science@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:science@wtu3a.org.uk)

**Joint Coffee morning with AC u3a** **Thursdays 20<sup>th</sup> July and 17<sup>th</sup> August** are the next dates for our coffee mornings at the Five Bells Weston Turville from 10.30am. As usual, the contact is Marie Jones on 07733 412295 or [coffee@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:coffee@wtu3a.org.uk)

**Walking Group** The next walk will be on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> August** and will be based at La De Spencer Arms in Downley, north of High Wycombe. The walk is 4½ mile circular trip passing close to Hughenden Manor. Transport is available from Weston Turville if necessary. More information from Sylv Elliott at: [walkers@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:walkers@wtu3a.org.uk)

**Patchwork & Quilting** The groups meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month at Stoke Mandeville Community Centre with one group running from 10am to 12.00 and the other from 2pm. Both groups have a few spaces so if you are interested please contact Maureen Reeves on: [quilting@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:quilting@wtu3a.org.uk)

**Mahjong** Meeting on the first and third Thursday of each month (2pm to 4pm in the Chapel Room) the group is happy to have new members along. There is a £2.50 per session charge and more information can be had from Ken Shaw on: [mahjong@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:mahjong@wtu3a.org.uk)

"July is hollyhocks and hammocks, fireworks and vacations, hot and steamy weather, cool and refreshing swims, beach picnics, and vegetables all out of the garden." - Jean Hersey

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**Garden Visits** Heather Marshall has taken over the Garden Visits group from Mary Duly who had done it for several years. Heather would be pleased to hear from anyone who wants to go onto the new list of interested members and she can be contacted at [gardens@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:gardens@wtu3a.org.uk) She is hoping to find some gardens within easy driving distance which would help with car share, but there may also be a few visits which would require a coach journey. Anyone who could help Heather research and choose suitable gardens would be very welcome.

**Gardening Group** For those of you who have signed up to join the proposed new Gardening Group our sincere thanks for your interest We have thirty plus members which is excellent news . To date we have catalogued and checked out your contact details with our membership base and will be in touch shortly for an inaugural meeting to plan our way forward. Holidays and family illnesses have caused us some delay but we have not forgotten you!

Rosemary Williams and Jenny Hunt. More details are available from [gardening@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:gardening@wtu3a.org.uk)

**Quiz afternoons** This is another new group which will start on **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September** – time and venue to be announced. Questions will suit all levels of knowledge so everyone will be catered for. More details from Joy Mantell at [quizzing@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:quizzing@wtu3a.org.uk)

**Theatre Visits** After a break for the summer there are a couple of performances at the Waterside. These are Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2.30pm – Greatest Days. (tickets are £32.50) and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 2.30pm – The Full Monty which costs £28. Let Melanie Evans know at: [theatre@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:theatre@wtu3a.org.uk) if you are interested.

Finally **News from local u3a branches** A couple of events run by Aylesbury Vale u3a are open to our members and these are: **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> August** – Coach trip to Avebury Stone Circle and Great Chalford Manor. **17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024** Sixties Music Weekend on the Isle of Wight Details on these events on: [www.avu3a.org.uk](http://www.avu3a.org.uk)  
The Thames Valley Network, to which we belong, is having a quiet time at present but two Zoom events to think about later are **Tuesday 12th September** – Rock n Roll - a presentation from Clive Aronson at 10:30 and **Friday 15th September** – Autumn Quiz at 2pm. Details on their website: [www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk](http://www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk) or you can link from our site.

“If I had my way, I’d remove January from the calendar altogether and have an extra July instead.” — Roald Dahl

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