



Weston Turville u3a Newsletter

June 2026

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

General Meetings You are probably getting tired of the reminders, so this is the final one (probably). The next general meeting is on **Thursday 18th June** – a week earlier than usual. Our guest is Jeremy Holmes who will talk about Andrew Carnegie who, at the start of the 20th Century, was the world's richest man having made his fortune in America as a ruthless steel magnate. As usual there will be teas and coffees (bring your own cups), the book swaps and the group tables. It all starts at 2.30pm at the Rugby Club.

Chairman's Report We enjoyed seeing some of our members masquerading as kings and queens during Sarah Slater's talk about Royal Jubilees during the last meeting. Unsurprisingly Queen Elizabeth II was elected the favourite of the six monarchs who had had jubilees during their reigns.

Three important forthcoming events

1. Summer Lunch – 1pm on Thursday 23rd July We look forward to Summer Lunch next month. As usual, it takes place at the Rugby Club and the set up will be the same as last year – and accompanied, we hope, by fine weather!

Tickets are again only £5 which entitles you to a lunch of brisket of beef and pork with the usual excellent salad bar. A vegetarian option is also available. The ice cream van will also be in attendance.

During the afternoon there will be entertainment from a band and the Chiltern Bellringers.

Tickets can be bought at the meeting on 18th June or through

summerlunch@wtu3a.org.uk Payment can be made by cheque or Bank

Transfer. Please note that this event is for members and spouses only.

Some things to remember, please:

1. The doors open at 1pm (not before) and lunch will be served from 1.30pm.
2. Please DO NOT bring your own alcoholic drinks. The bar will be open and it is against the law for us to consume our own instead.

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.

3. Given the large number of people and therefore cars coming, please park with care. (Incidentally, there is no provision for you to leave your car at the Rugby Club overnight.)

And – Don't forget to bring your tickets!

2. AGM & Talk – 27th August At the AGM we review the year and also appoint or re-appoint members of the committee. **If you would be interested in becoming a committee member**, please contact me at chairman@wtu3a.gov.uk I would be pleased to hear from you. The AGM should not take long and will be followed by a talk entitled 'Blessed are the Cheesemakers' by John Pearson, an international cheese judge,. The talk will be followed by a cheese tasting.

3. Our u3a Open Day – Tuesday 22nd September This will be in the Village Hall and many groups will be represented. We very much hope you will be able to attend some time in the afternoon – and bring with you anybody you know who is not a member but might be interested in becoming one. More details will follow.

Just to remind you that our **Suggestions Box** is always at the door during monthly meetings. We are always pleased to receive suggestions of any sort about our meetings, new groups, new events, ideas for improvement, complaints – you name it! Please feel free to use it anyway. Alternatively you can always email me at chairman@wtu3a.org.uk

Paul Fincken I am very sorry to have to report the recent death of Paul, who has led the table tennis group for some years. He has also organised the music at our summer lunches and, not least, with his partner Jane been the quizmaster at our annual Quiz Night. He will be much missed and, on behalf of all u3a members, I pass on sincere condolences to Jane and all Paul's family.

Simon Evers Chairman

Recommended Tradespeople We keep a list of tradespeople who have been used by our members and who have been recommended for their service. This has been useful to many members who have needed a suitable electrician, plumber, builder, solicitor, taxi – the list goes on and on. Rosemary Williams keeps the lists updated and she can be contacted at: recommended@wtu3a.org.uk Any recommendations from members to add to the lists would be welcome.

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NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

Discussion Group The next meeting will be at 10.30am on **Friday 3rd July** at the Five Bells. Please bring along any subjects you would like to discuss. More details on the group from Terry Jones on discussion@wtu3a.org.uk or 07884 121657.

Theatre visits All the forthcoming theatre trips are at the Waterside in Aylesbury and they are:

Thursday 3rd September (7.30pm) – The Choir of Man. £33 tickets

An evening of foot stomping entertainment based in a pub.

Wednesday 11th November (2.30pm) – The Mousetrap. £31.50 (circle)

You chance to solve theatre's most famous mystery on the 75th anniversary tour.

Sunday 22nd November (7.30pm) – Boyzlife. £43.77

A night of nostalgia with Boyzone's Keith Duffy and Westlife's Brian McFadden.

Tuesday 24th November (7.30pm) The Archers Live at 75. £43.77 (second circle)

More nostalgia celebrating the people and stories from 75 years in Ambridge.

Melanie Evans at theatre@wtu3a.org.uk will take your bookings and answer any questions.

Joint Coffee Morning with ACu3a You are welcome to just turn up or ask Marie Jones on coffee@wtu3a.org.uk for more details of the joint meeting with our friends at ACu3a. They start at 10.30am at the Five Bells with the next ones being on **Thursdays 18th June** and **16th July**. Anyone wishing to stay after the meeting on 18th June for lunch and a drink will be very welcome. Some members of the discussion group may also be joining in.

We also have a joint tennis group with ACu3a and members play every Tuesday morning from 10am until 12noon at Aston Clinton Park. Anyone interested can just turn up and there is no charge. Marie Jones at the above email address will let you have more details.

Trips The planned trip to Windsor on 26th June has been cancelled due to lack of numbers but the trip to Bath Christmas Market on **Thursday 3rd December** is full and a reserve list has been started. If you want to be on that list send a message to Sarah Gunn on trips@wtu3a.org.uk

“May June bring you joy, happiness, love, and lots of sunshine.”
– Unknown

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Quiz Group The next afternoon quiz will be on **Friday 24th July** at 2.30pm in the Chapel Room. The quiz is great fun and enjoyed by all those taking part. You can come on your own or as a group for this enjoyable afternoon's entertainment. More details from Joy Mantell on quizzing@wtu3a.org.uk

Chess The chess group meets regularly on the second and fourth Fridays of each month (and often on other Fridays as well) for lunch, chat, companionship and the odd game of chess - sometimes very odd, but always fun and sociable. The next meetings are on **26th June** and **10th** and **24th July**. If you want to find out more, email Geoffrey Howell on chess@wtu3a.org.uk and check with him, either by email or at a general meeting, that it is definitely on

Writing Group At our next meeting on **Tuesday 7th July** at 2pm – the group will be reading their book reviews. If you need any more details of this exciting new group (and new members will be very welcome) contact Joy Mantell on writing@wtu3a.org.uk

Have-a-go Group After their successful first adventure, The Have a Go Group is now looking at options for their next foray which hopefully will be towards the end of July. Possible options include croquet, backwoods cooking, chocolate making, clay pigeon shooting, a Traitors experience and several others. If you fancy any of these let Karen Newman know at haveago@wtu3a.org.uk - the aim is run one event every couple of months.

Science and Technology Unfortunately the first scheduled Elizabeth Line tour on Thursday 4th June had to be called off at short notice due to a strike on the underground and all our guides had to perform other activities on the day. The next visit is still going ahead on **Thursday 2nd July**. Two further dates have been arranged and these are also **Thursdays, 3rd September** and **17th September**. John Beer is also putting together the autumn programme and this will be announced shortly. More details from John at: science@wtu3a.org.uk

Card making There is still room for new cardmakers with meetings on the second Thursday of each month – 10am to 12.00 in the Chapel Hall – so if you are interested let Lindsey Beer know at: cardmaking@wtu3a.org.uk The next meeting is on **Thursday 9th July**.

“June is the time for being in the world in new ways, for throwing off the cold and dark spots of life.” – Joan D. Chittister

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Rummikub The group's next meeting is on **Tuesday 16th June** starting at 2pm in the Five Bells. More details of the group and the game are available from Deborah Brown on rummikub@wtu3a.org.uk

Touch tennis There is currently some availability for more players to join the group. This is a more gentle form of tennis with a squeazy ball and it is played on a small court. We play on a Tuesday afternoon from 2:45pm to 3:45pm at Halton Tennis Centre. The cost is £3 per session. Please contact, Ken Shaw at touchtennis@wtu3a.org.uk if you are interested.

Scrapbook and Memory Book This relatively new group meets on the second Monday of each month so the next one will be on **13th July** . Meetings are currently at Lindsey Beer's house but as the group increases in size it will move to the Chapel. Anyone interested (and there is still some room for new members) should contact Lindsey at cardmaking@wtu3a.org.uk or speak to her at the next general meeting.

Pétanque The group starts plays between 2pm and 4pm every Monday at the pétanque terrain behind the Weston Turville Village Hall. If you want to give it a go please come along. More details from Ken Shaw at petanque@wtu3a.org.uk

Walking Group Despite the weather not being very summery, there was a good turn out for the June walk which was based at Wigginton, The next one will be on **Tuesday 14th July** and if you are not on her mailing list, Sylv Elliott will give you more details. She can be contacted at walkers@wtu3a.org.uk

Handbell ringing You don't need any musical knowledge as it's all done by numbers. The ringers meet every Friday morning at 10.00 at John Beer's house so if you fancy having a go contact John at: handbells@wtu3a.org.uk

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Local u3a news The Aylesbury Vale u3a have some spaces on upcoming trips:
Monday 6th July – Anglesey Abbey - £31 (plus £17 for non-National Trust members)

Tuesday 4th August –Hidcote (£28 plus £19 for non-NT members)

The coach leaves from Jansel Square in Bedgrove.

Bookings can be made through their website: <https://aylesbury.u3asite.uk>

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Network News Zoom presentations continue during the summer months with **Friday 19th June** at 2.30pm being their annual summer quiz. Into July and on **Wednesday 15th July** at 10.30am there is a talk “Think Britain doesn’t manufacture anything any more?” given by industrial historian Dr Richard Marks. With a break in August there is then a presentation on “China” on **Wednesday 16th September** at 10.30am. The usual booking arrangements apply and details are on their website: www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk or you can link from our site.

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Although not strictly u3a business, you might be interested in the following notices:

The Aylesbury Centre of the National Trust, of which some of us are members, are having a coach trip on **Wednesday 1st July** to the NT property at Knole in Kent followed by the British Wildlife Centre in Lingfield, Surrey. The cost is £45 and, handily, the coach leaves from the Rugby Club at 8.15am. Anyone interested should contact Diane Mulholland on 07971 518365.

We have received the following request from Leicester University

I am writing to request your assistance in sharing information about a research study we are conducting on concerns about falling in older adults. The study aims to understand whether witnessing or hearing about other people falling (e.g., friends, family members, or others) influences individuals’ own concerns about falling. We would be grateful if you could circulate the study information and survey link (<https://app.onlinesurveys.jisc.ac.uk/s/leicester/how-seeing-or-hearing-others-falling-affects-older-adults-worri>) to members of your group/organisation. Participation is entirely voluntary, anonymous, and confidential. Members can access the survey online at their convenience, and there are no right or wrong answers – we are interested in participants’ experiences and perspectives.

Your support would be invaluable in helping us understand concerns about falling and informing future falls prevention strategies.

Kind regards, Ellie Johnson (ej158@leicester.ac.uk)

Finally – a handy household/gardening tip.

If you want to keep ants from getting into your house, keep a dish of milk outside. The adult ants drink the milk and it causes a problem with reproduction. It causes the baby ants to be born without toes and they can't crawl into your wall cavities. It's known as LACK-TOES-IN-TODDLER-ANTS

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