



# Weston Turville U3A Newsletter

**May 2023**

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 May meeting includes both the AGM and a talk by Mervyn Edwards entitled “Walking the Beat to Nirvana.” As a retired police officer he will speak about his career as a specialist firearms officer with the Tactical Firearms Team. Although he will talk about the serious nature of the work there will also be a great deal of humour during the presentation.

The AGM (details of which you should have received separately) starts at 2.30pm on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May** and after a break for tea (bring your own cup) we will hear Mervyn’s presentation. The following meeting is on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June** when Tom Way will talk about wildlife photography.

**Last meeting** Ex-Army musician Jon Woodhouse gave an interesting presentation at the last meeting when he played some wonderful tunes on a variety of saxophones and also spoke about his career in the forces.

**Chairman’s Report – May 2023.** Not too much from me this month, you will read more in my Annual Report that will appear elsewhere. The May General Meeting on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May will include our AGM. Like many clubs and organizations, our AGM is soon over and there will be plenty of time for tea and coffee and our speaker. But, the AGM is important as it’s an opportunity to see and hear how we are doing, and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

You will read more about our Summer Lunch elsewhere in the Newsletter but tickets for this event in July will be available at the May meeting. Please book your tickets as soon as possible, whilst there are no limits on the number of members who can attend, early booking helps us with our catering arrangements.

**Teas** We still need a co-ordinator for the general meeting teas as it is a vital but not too onerous job. Lynn White at: [refreshments@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:refreshments@wtu3a.org.uk) or Chris Bennett will gladly give more details to anyone interested. You could always sign up to help at our forthcoming meetings to get an idea of what happens.

**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.**

**Annual subscriptions** Many thanks to all members who have already paid their membership subscriptions for the year. You will get an email or letter in due course acknowledging receipt and enclosing your paper membership 'card'. **If you have not yet paid your subscription, you have until 31<sup>st</sup> May to do so.** After this date if you have still not paid you can expect a nasty reminder letter from me!

*Help required* I have two cheques for £15, neither are in the name of current members and with no indication who therefore is paying the subscription. These are in the names of Mr D K Walduck and Mrs Barbara Poole. If you know either of these people I would be grateful if you would contact me.

If you have any queries, you can contact me by phone on 07859 221109 or by email at: [membership@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:membership@wtu3a.org.uk)

**New members' coffee morning** Thank you to those new members who attended this on 2<sup>nd</sup> May. We had a very useful exchange of information and several new ideas put forward which we will look to follow up.

**July meeting** There are some slight changes to our plans for the July meeting in which we were having a hog roast. This will now be a summer luncheon where there will be a variety of meats as well as various salad items. There will be a charge of £5 per member (this is a members-only function) and tickets will be on sale at both the May and June general meetings. Cheques and cash are welcome. If you are not attending either of these meetings but would like tickets, please send a cheque for £5 per member (made payable to Weston Turville u3a) to Simon Evers, the Membership Secretary, at 3 Watermill Way, Weston Turville, HP22 5SR. He will then send you an email ticket or tickets.

**Books** Regular attendees to our general meetings will have seen the book/magazine/jigsaw table in which members are welcome to take these items. However please bring them back when you have done with them and not donate them to charity shops as we understand some members are doing. Please note we don't need hardback books as they are too heavy to keep bringing to meetings.

**Local u3a news** Our friends at Aylesbury Vale u3a are running a Mid-Summer Rock 'n Roll party from 7pm to 10pm on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June** at the Rivets Sports & Social Club in Aylesbury and the excellent band will be The Blue Moons. Tickets are £10 and are available from John Wilford at: [sound@avu3a.org.uk](mailto:sound@avu3a.org.uk)

**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.**

**Network News** Thames Valley u3a Network have two online events coming up shortly. Firstly is a Summer Quiz at 2.30pm on **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June** and on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June** is a talk by Read Admiral Christopher Parry on “Conflict – in Ukraine”. Booking details are on [www.tvu3anetwork.org.uk](http://www.tvu3anetwork.org.uk) or you can link from our site.

### **NEWS FROM THE GROUPS**

**Trips** Two trips are planned later this year, but Mandi Simons needs to get some indication of interest before making final bookings. The postponed visit to Cambridge for a tour of the mosque, some free time in the city and a cream tea in Grantchester will now happen on a Monday in August or September. The cost will be £47. In late November there is a coach trip to Winchester to visit the famous Christmas Market where once we get there you will have five hours to go round the market, visit the cathedral or wander round the shops. If you are interested in one or both trips let Mandi know at [trips@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:trips@wtu3a.org.uk) so she can keep you informed of developments.

**Mahjong** For all who would like to know more about dragons, winds, characters, circles and bamboo, and play the Mahjong tiles, please sign up for our twice monthly Mahjong Group. We meet every first and third Thursday of the month from 2:00pm to 4:00pm at The Union Chapel, School Lane, Weston Turville. There is a small fee of £2.50 per session to cover the cost of the hall. Please contact Ken Shaw via email at: [mahjong@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:mahjong@wtu3a.org.uk)

**Walking Group** The next walk is on **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June** and is from the Greyhound pub, Wigginton HP23 6EH. It is a circular 4.3 miles walk - fairly flat but can't rule out mud but hoping in the next few weeks we will get drier weather. Please wear suitable footwear. Lifts are available from the Chandos in Weston Turville. More details from Sylv Elliott at: [walkers@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:walkers@wtu3a.org.uk)

**Theatre Visits** Coming up next on **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June** is Strictly Ballroom at Aylesbury Waterside Theatre where tickets will cost £30. Let Melanie Evans know at [theatre@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:theatre@wtu3a.org.uk) if you are interested or want more information.

**Social Bridge Group** The group meets every Monday afternoon from 2pm to 5pm in the Five Bells in the village. Normally we have three or four tables playing and will swap in and out and change partners if we have an odd number. We are a very relaxed group and don't score or take ourselves seriously at all! We're always happy to welcome new members for a trial afternoon. Contact Carol Johnson - [socialbridge@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:socialbridge@wtu3a.org.uk).

**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.**

**Science & Technology** By now it is likely all places for the trip on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June** to the Battle of Britain Bunker and Museum in Hillingdon are taken but if you are interested you can contact John Beer to see if there are any cancellations. The group hopes to have a trip round the BMW plant in Oxford in early September but this will depend on John knowing how many members are interested, so please let him know if you are keen to go.

Already booked is a tour round 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.

The much awaited trip to the London Transport Museum in Acton has been rearranged for **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October**. The likely price for the coach and entrance is £40. More details from John Beer at: [science@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:science@wtu3a.org.uk)

**Chess** The Chess group meets every other Friday lunchtime (next ones are on **26<sup>th</sup> May and 9<sup>th</sup> June**) at the Chandos in Weston Turville where you can play chess and enjoy some refreshment. No particular ability for the game is required. Contact Geoffrey Howell at [chess@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:chess@wtu3a.org.uk) for more details.

**Joint Coffee mornings with AC U3A** The next coffee mornings are scheduled for Thursdays **15<sup>th</sup> June** and **20<sup>th</sup> July**. We meet in the Five Bells Weston Turville from 10.30am. As usual the contact is Marie Jones on 07733 412295.

**Petanque** The group continues to meet every Monday afternoon (weather permitting) from 2pm to 4pm at the village hall in Weston Turville. For more details contact Ken Shaw at: [petanque@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:petanque@wtu3a.org.uk)

**Finally this has nothing to do with WTU3a, but....** Camden Council are running a series of free online adult learning history talks during May and June 2023. All are on Mondays from 11am to 12.30 To sign up use this link:

<https://www.webenrol.com/camden/?page=list&catID=5&>

**5 June *How Roman was Roman Britain?*** explore the impact of the Roman imperial invasion in AD 43 on life in Iron Age Britain. **12 June *The Thames through time:*** explore the archaeology of the Thames **19 June *Daily life in ancient Egypt:*** discover how wall paintings and objects from ancient Egyptian tombs help us to understand everyday life in the past. **26 June *Animals at the British Library:*** an introduction to the British Library's physical and online resources and an in-depth look into the new 'Animals' exhibition.

"The world's favourite season is the spring. All things seem possible in May." —*Edwin Way Teale*

**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.**