



# Weston Turville u3a Newsletter

**November 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** Don't forget our next general meeting is on **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November** at the Rugby Club. Christmas entertainment will be provided by the Sun Jesters who will give us a feast of anecdotes on a seasonal theme. There will be Christmas songs from the Golden Age of Hollywood musicals and also a look at some festive traditions and how one of them was (and still could be) illegal. As well as the entertainment there will also be mulled wine and mince pies. It all starts at 2.30pm. With no meeting in December the following general meeting will be on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January**.

**Last meeting** Ann and John Ford enlightened us with their presentation and display on "Morris Minors in the Media" which spoke of their business of hiring out their car collection to film and television companies.

**Chairman's Report.** I want to begin by thanking Lynn White who has organised all things Tea & Coffee at our monthly meetings for about the last 10 years! Many thanks Lynn for all your hard work, often ignored but quietly working away in the background. As Lynn departs, I'd like to welcome Lorraine Tierney who has offered to take over. Thank you Lorraine. I would also like to take this opportunity of thanking all of you who have helped Lynn each month, but we still need you! If you can, please add your name to the list at the kitchen. An offer of help for just one month in the year will be greatly appreciated. At our last meeting you would have heard me talk about the use of defibrillators. We have been offered the opportunity to run a short session for our members on their use, together with First Response to a First Aid incident. It was encouraging to see, in a show of hands, 40-50 people interested in attending. This is something for early next year, please watch this space! Our November meeting is on the **30<sup>th</sup>**, a week later than normal. It's a Christmas meeting with Christmassy entertainment together with mince pies, mulled wine, etc. One not to be missed, I look forward to seeing you all there.

"Autumn carries more gold in its pocket than all the other seasons." – Jim Bishop

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**Remembrance Sunday** Chairman Chris Bennett laid the wreath on our behalf at a very well attended service at the village War Memorial.

**Diaries** The 2024 u3a diaries have arrived and they can be collected from Rosemary Williams at the November meeting, or by arrangement with her.

**Book swap** Our book exchange at general meetings is proving very popular and there are an increasing number of books to choose from. However it becomes more difficult to get all the books to each meeting, so we are looking for a couple of volunteers to take a box of books home and store them until the following meeting. We would also be grateful if anyone could store the jigsaws and magazines. Chairman Chris Bennett [chairman@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:chairman@wtu3a.org.uk) - would be delighted to hear from anyone who can help. Finally, please don't bring hardback books – we just need paperbacks.

**New members' coffee morning** All new members will have received an invitation from our membership secretary Simon Evers to a coffee morning and an informal chat in the Oak Room at St Mary's Church in Weston Turville on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November** at 10.30am. Please let Simon know on 07859 221109 or at [membership@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:membership@wtu3a.org.uk) if you haven't already confirmed your attendance.

**Quiz Night** The quiz night on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November** is now full. Doors will not open until 6.30pm (7pm start) so don't get there too soon.

**Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December.** There may be one or two places left by now, so let Carol Williams know at [carolwilliams7170@gmail.com](mailto:carolwilliams7170@gmail.com) if you are still interested. The venue is Chiltern Forest Golf Club, the cost is £36 and the choice of menus was in the last newsletter.

### **NEWS FROM THE GROUPS**

**Quiz afternoons** The next quiz will be on **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November** in the Chapel Room. Individuals and couples are welcome so there is no need to get a complete team together. Questions will suit all levels so everyone will be catered for. As numbers in the room are limited let Joy Mantell at [quizzing@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:quizzing@wtu3a.org.uk) know if you are coming.

“November— the last month of autumn, but the beginning of a new adventure. Time to take a risk and do the unexpected.” – Anonymous

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**Mahjong** The group is actively seeking new members. We are a mixed ability group, though most of us are relatively new to the game; so whatever your skill level you will be welcome. The venue has now moved to The Chandos Arms in Weston Turville. We meet on the first and third Thursday of the month starting at 2pm and usually finish at 4pm. There is no charge, however, you are welcome to purchase a drink or coffee etc. from the bar. For more information please contact Ken Shaw by email at; [mahjong@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:mahjong@wtu3a.org.uk)

**Theatre Visits** Already Melanie Evans has a number of visits lined up for 2024 at the Waterside Theatre in Aylesbury.

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March** 2.30pm The Kite Runners £30

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April** 7.30pm Seven Drunken Nights – the Story of the Dubliners £31.50

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April** 7.30pm House of Jo Jo – Johannes Radebe £56

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April** 7.30pm Madama Butterfly - Ellen Kent £37.75

Contact Melanie at: [theatre@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:theatre@wtu3a.org.uk) if you are interested in any of these.

**Gardening Group** The next meeting for the group will be on **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November** in the Chapel Room at 2pm when there will be a talk “A Gardener’s Diary” given by Colin Oakes. The last meeting was a well-attended question and answer session where hopefully everyone learnt something about gardening and had their questions answered.

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

**Science & Technology** The final two visits of the year have now passed very successfully with a look at restored buses and cars as well as a bus trip round Aylesbury, and also a visit to the London Transport Museum in Acton. So it is back to base for the last meeting of the year which is on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December** at 10-30am in the Chapel Room. The presentation is on 'The latest development in Fusion Technology'. There will be a £2 entry fee. A couple of events are planned for next year with visits to the Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford and the Water & Steam Museum in Brentford. Further details will be in the next newsletter or can be had from John Beer at: [science@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:science@wtu3a.org.uk)

**Coffee morning with ACu3a** There will be no meeting in December so the first one for 2024 will be on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January** from 10.30am at the Five Bells in Weston Turville. As usual, the group’s contact is Marie Jones on 07733 412295.

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**Chess** Fish and chips are optional as is a game of chess, but if you have any interest in either of these why not come along to the Chandos in WT on the second or fourth Friday of each month at 12.30pm. More details of the group from Geoffrey Howell on: [chess@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:chess@wtu3a.org.uk)

**Walking Group** The Christmas walk is on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December** and will be based at the Plough in Cadsdean where lunch is available on return. The walk is 4 miles using the woods and along the Ridgeway so it could be a bit slippery in places. Transport is available from the Chandos in WT if required. Further details from Sylv Elliott at [walkers@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:walkers@wtu3a.org.uk) Their Christmas lunch on the previous Friday is full and their weekend trip to the Long Mynd next April is filling up fast.

**Network news** A couple of events you may be interested in: **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November** 2.30pm (the same time as our general meeting) a talk by Chris Parry "My Falklands War" and **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Quiz. Details on their website: [www.tvu3a.org.uk](http://www.tvu3a.org.uk)

**A holiday in Ireland...** Wendover u3a are running a trip to Ireland for 6 nights starting on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024. The base is in Dundalk and there will be daily visits to such places as the Giant's Causeway, Mount Stewart and the Carrick Rope Bridge. Accommodation is half-board. The cost is £879pp and a £50 deposit is needed by the end of November. More details are on the Wendover u3a website, which can be linked from our site.

**...or in York** Our national body is holding the u3a Festival '24 in York between **18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> July** next year. During the three days there will be a full programme of talks, sporting events, workshops and musical entertainment. Accommodation is available at the campus of the University of York or at various other establishments in the city. More details will be available on: [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk)

**FINALLY** Don't forget our next General meeting is on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November starting at 2.30pm.

**"November is usually such a disagreeable month as if the year had suddenly found out that she was growing old and could do nothing but weep and fret over it." – L.M. Montgomery**

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