



Weston Turville u3a Newsletter

October 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 next meeting is on **Thursday 26th October** at the Rugby Club when Ann and John Ford will give an informative and amusing presentation “Morris Minors in the Media.” It tells of their successful business hiring out their collection of Morris Minors to film, television and publicity companies before diversifying into transporting VIPs. As usual it starts at 2.30pm with notices, teas and coffees and the book exchange.

Another reminder that the following meeting is on **Thursday 30th November** which is a week later than originally advertised. So come along and enjoy the mulled wine, mince pies and Christmas entertainment.

Chairman's Report

The speaker at our September meeting was Dr Katheryn Harkup who spoke about some of the scientists of the 16th and 17th century. She mentioned their rivalries, that they were typically “the mad scientist”, and surprisingly the huge contribution they made to society. The talk was excellent, and it occurred to me that many of you missed a very good afternoon.

So I thought that this month I'd highlight our monthly meetings. Actually attendance is always pretty good, speakers often say they routinely speak to groups of 50-60 and are always pleased when they see the packed rugby club. In September there were over 110, slightly down on our average. But our membership is over 400, so many don't attend. I know there are perfectly good reasons why, childminding and family commitments, part time work, transport, mobility problems etc., but if you have never been to a monthly meeting or have not for a while, please give it a try. The rugby club in Weston Turville is easy to find and has a huge car park. You will get a seat, tea and biscuits etc. You can meet and speak to some of the hard working leaders who run our interest groups plus of course other u3a members.

I should add as a final thought, a couple of weeks back I was talking to a lady who said she did attend our meetings and how much she enjoyed our speakers. As she said goodbye, she asked me what I did! Just goes to show what an impression I've made! See you on the 26th.

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.

Diaries The closing date for ordering a 2024 u3a diary will be at the October general meeting. Rosemary Williams will take orders at £4 each – cash with order please – at the meeting.

Quiz Night As you will have already received a flyer about the quiz night these are just the main details: It is on **Saturday 25th November** at Weston Turville Village Hall with doors opening at 6.30pm and not beforehand. The cost is £15 per person and includes a 'Fish and Chip' Supper. For information contact Jules Whitehead / Simon Evers / Arlene Bocking on wtu3aquiz@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

Trips There are still a few places left for the coach trip to Winchester for the Christmas Market on **Friday 17th November** with the cost being £15. During your five hour stay in the city you can visit the market, shops, cathedral or any of the local attractions. Further details are available from Mandi Simons at trips@wtu3a.org.uk

Quiz afternoons After the success of the inaugural meeting, the next quiz will be on **Friday 27th October** 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 know if you are coming.

Theatre Visits Performances coming up at the Waterside in Aylesbury are: **Wednesday 8th November** 2.30pm – Take That's Greatest Days. (tickets are £32.50) and **Thursday 23rd November** at 2.30pm - The Full Monty which costs £28. Contact Melanie Evans at: theatre@wtu3a.org.uk if you are interested.

Gardening Group The inaugural meeting for the group was well supported and a lot of interesting ideas came from it. The next meeting will be on **Monday 30th October** in the Chapel Room in Weston Turville. On this occasion we plan to have a Q & A session whereby you can write down any question you may have and put this in the box provided. You do not have to include your name. We will then take a question at a time, read it out and ask you if you have any advice, experiences or comments you can make on the topic. There will be a £2 charge to cover the hall hire. Thereafter the group will meet on the fourth Monday of each month. More details are available from Jenny Hunt or Rosemary Williams on: gardening@wtu3a.org.uk

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Science & Technology Following the trip to the National Computer Museum in Bletchley Park, the next outing is on the evening of **Thursday 26th October** to the collection of vintage buses in Aylesbury followed by a ride on a Routemaster bus. On **Tuesday 31st October** we visit the London Transport Museum in Acton where we get two guided tours – the Poster Tour which looks at the many posters that have been used on LT over the last century, and the Depot Tour which looks at the main artefacts at the museum. The cost of this is £40 which includes coach, entry and both tours. There are a couple of places left on this trip. The final meeting for the year will be on **Thursday 7th December**. This is a talk in the Chapel Room at 10-30am on 'The latest development in Fusion Technology' There will be a £2 entry fee. More details on all these events from John Beer at: science@wtu3a.org.uk

Walking Group Sylv Elliott has arranged a weekend's walking holiday between **Friday 26th and Monday 29th April** based on the Longmynd Hotel in Church Stretton, Shropshire. Saturday walks range from 7 to 11 miles and Sundays from 6 to 12 miles although you can walk as much or as little as you want. The cost is £400pp for a twin room and £400 to £460 for a single. More information from Sylv at walkers@wtu3a.org.uk or on 07890 926765. The next regular walk is on **Tuesday 14th November**.


Garden Visits The group had its first visit recently with an enjoyable trip to "Patchwork" in Berkhamsted. With winter fast approaching there will be a break until early next year but let group leader Heather Marshall know at gardens@wtu3a.org.uk if you want to go on her mailing list.

Coffee morning with ACu3a The next joint coffee mornings are on **Thursdays 19th October and 16th November** at the Five Bells in Weston Turville from 10.30am. There will be no meeting in December. As usual, the contact is Marie Jones on 07733 412295 or coffee@wtu3a.org.uk.

Chess It doesn't matter whether you are a beginner or an experienced player, the Chess Group will be delighted to see you at the Chandos in Weston Turville at 12.30pm on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. More details of the group from Geoffrey Howell on: chess@wtu3a.org.uk

Brandenburg Choral Festivals There are two festivals scheduled for 18th and 24th November at various locations in London. There are reduced prices for u3a members and friends. More details on: www.Brandenburgchoralfestival.com

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Christmas Lunch Our annual Christmas Lunch is being held at Chiltern Forest Golf Club on **Wednesday 6th December** starting at 12.00. The cost is £36 per person and Carol Williams will be looking after the arrangements. More details and bookings can be had from her at: carolwilliams7170@gmail.com and you will need to choose from the following meal options:

Starters Smoked salmon with shredded beetroot and vodka crème fraiche
Roasted tomato and red pepper soup (V)
Ham hock terrine
Whitebait with a dill mayonnaise

Mains Roasted turkey crown served with pigs in blankets and stuffing balls
Seabass served with ratatouille and basil
Mushroom stroganoff (V)
Roast rump of beef with Yorkshire pudding

Desserts Traditional Christmas pudding with brandy sauce
Selection of cheese and biscuits with onion chutney, grapes and celery
Apple, cranberry and mixed spice crumble and custard
Raspberry meringue with blueberry compote and blackberries

Tea/coffee with mince pies, crackers and table decorations.

All dietary requests can be catered for.