

Weston Turville U3A Newsletter

August 2016

==========



WTU3A embraces 21st century technology and social media! Ok, so we haven't got a teleporter or even a twitter account, but we have got our very own Facebook Group, called unsurprisingly, **Weston Turville U3A**. Pat Housego, our forward thinking Chairman, pictured left, has set up the Facebook group for you all to share stories, photos and events of interest which are not suitable for the newsletter or website for some reason. The group is private so only members of this U3A can join it and see the posts. If you do not currently have a Facebook account and are not sure how to go about starting one then please contact Pat Housego or myself for instructions. Mandi Simons

SPEAKER: **Our next meeting is on Thursday 25th August when we have a talk entitled 'London Oddities' by Sally Botwright.** As ever please don't arrive before 2pm unless you want to help set it all up!

U3A COMMITTEE NEWS: Two subjects which came under the committees' scrutiny at the last meeting were guest speakers at monthly meetings and the need for deputies. The speaker issue was raised after it was noticed that over 50% of members who attend the monthly meeting often do not stay to hear the speaker. The provision of a speaker attending the monthly meeting is a large financial cost to the organisation and time consuming for the Speaker Secretary in finding and booking good speakers. At this month's meeting we will be running a simple vote to see if members still want a monthly speaker or if they would occasionally like to do something else i.e. food tasting, BBQ, tea and chatting, etc. If you are not attending this meeting but have an opinion on the issue, could you please contact Pat Housego, Chairman at chairman@wtu3a.org.uk.

Group Leaders will be requested to nominate a deputy to stand in for them in times of holiday, illness, maternity/paternity leave or demise etc. Please do consider supporting your group leader if asked to undertake this role as it is not onerous and is essential to maintain the smooth running of the group.

WTU3A WEBSITE: Our hardworking and 'put upon' webmaster, Mike Bean, has been making changes to the website to make it more applicable for our needs. These changes include putting in all known about monthly activities in the diary, however it is always best to check with the group leader first if you are new to a group to ensure there are no last minute changes. A willing volunteer who has appropriate IT skills is also required to act as deputy webmaster to assist Mike. If you fancy this, and I know there are a few retired IT people out there, please speak to Mike to find out what is involved. Mandi Simons

TRIPS: KILL OR CURE: Friday 21st October 2016. I am currently running a reserve list for this trip. Full payment due now please. If you are not going to get to the monthly meeting can you please send your cheques made payable to Weston Turville U3A (travel) to me, Mandi Simons. Thank you.

U3A CHRISTMAS LUNCH: Mary Duly has been busy arranging this year's Christmas event. We listened to you last year and learnt that it doesn't matter how many times you have a Christmas lunch do, you want another one! So with that in mind; Pendley Manor has been booked for a 3 course set Christmas meal in the Harcourt Ballroom on **Friday 16th December 2016** between 1pm and 4pm. Cost per person £27.00 (includes raffle ticket). Everyone to arrange their own transport. We are doing the seating slightly different, at the request of some members, and it will be possible to book and pay for a table for 10 persons, meaning you can sit with your chosen group of friends. The person booking has to pay for all the others at the time of booking so make sure they pay upfront or you know where they live! Those of us without 10 friends to share with, can take pot luck with seating and get to know new people and make new friends. A booking form has been sent out with the email containing this newsletter giving details of menu and how to book. Contact Mary Duly email: m.duly@btinternet.com tel: 01296 623060



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. Please send photos of your events and activities to photos@wtu3a.org.uk including what the subjects are, when taken and who took them.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS: We would like to thank everyone for being on time for an extremely interesting visit to Frogmore and Saville gardens. Our next visit is on September 6th to Buckingham Palace. The tickets are for 11.0 tour. We will leave the Chandos at 9.15 shops 9.20. Could you check that we have your telephone number, in case the coach has to alter the times due to possible delays.
On October 3rd a visit to the National Trusts Ickworth House in Bury St Edmonds, Suffolk has been arranged - times and cost to be confirmed. The NT describe the house as:'Ickworth House far from being just a comfortable home, was designed to impress; grand yet functional, austere and splendid and designed to entertain on a grand scale for favoured guests. It was built as an 18th century palace to showcase the many treasures and art collected by the Earl Bishop who despite being a third son, eventually inherited the Estate in 1779. The Earl Bishop upon inheriting the Ickworth Estate and having a deep passion for the curation of art, aspired to build a house that would in his own words unite 'magnificence with convenience'. A man of his time, he was keen to follow the latest styles. He greatly admired all things classical, especially simplicity and proportion and thus Ickworth, his masterpiece, was conceived. Started in 1795, the building was still just a shell when he died in 1803 and his son was left to complete his vision. His son, the 5th Earl who later became the 1st Marquess, eventually moved in with his family in 1829'. Ceinwyne Jones

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: The Science and Technology group September 1st will be visiting the Trenchard Museums at Halton RAF camp. For October it is back to base for a talk on 'Energy for Life'. Details for each event to follow or see me (John Beer) at the general meeting.

LEEDS CASTLE (KENT): Flower Festival Tuesday 27th September 2016 has been cancelled due to poor take up making it financially unviable. Mary Duly

GARDEN VISITS: The garden visit to Sussex Prairie Gardens and Nymans due to have taken place on Thursday September 15th has been cancelled. Garden Visit for 2017: I have booked a garden visit to Ascott House and Gardens. National Trust, Wing, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. LU7 OPS,On Tuesday April 11th 2017 Time of visit 2pm. Afternoon Tea included. Gaynor Edwards.



VISITING CHURCHES GROUP: Our September visit will be in the afternoon of Wednesday 21st September to St Mary's, Amersham. There is a wealth of marble monuments within the church and barrel stone graves in the churchyard. Please confirm your name on our list of members at the monthly meeting if you would like to come along, or to join our group. All welcome. John Richardson and Margaret Baynes

EXTREME VISITS:

Zipwire; 5th September – Zipwire World Velocity – Penrhyn Quarry, Bethesda, Wales.



Now ready to go, if you would like to join this adventure, contact us **ASAP!**

£54 a projectile £10 per spectator. **Cheques to "Weston Turville U3A (Travel)" at General meeting.**

White Water Rafting; 7th October – Olympic Lea Valley White Water Centre.



We now need the final outstanding cheques to complete the booking! Just a few places available.

Full details to follow.

£43 per mariner. **Cheques to "Weston Turville U3A (Travel)" ASAP.**

For an Extreme experience or to add to our photo album, contact Trevor or Adrian extreme@WTU3A.org.uk Tel 0777 150 6055

Remember to add your photos to the new Facebook Group 'Weston Turville U3A'. There are several up there already but the more the merrier!



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. Please send photos of your events and activities to photos@wtu3a.org.uk including what the subjects are, when taken and who took them.