



# The Westerly News blowing in from Westerham U3A

JUNE 2017

IN THIS ISSUE: STUDY GROUPS AND OMS

## Welcome to all from our Chair

A very warm welcome to all new and all established members.

Westerham U3A is an exciting place to be. So much is happening, and most of our new actions are thanks to the views and constructive comments from you, our members.

We aim to make our branch outings almost a monthly occurrence, with suggestions being put forward and implemented by a small working party; some group leaders are now regularly offering outings to all members.

We have a fantastic new display about our study

groups at Open Meetings, and a team of **Welcomers** making sure that everyone has someone to talk to.

Last but not least, could YOU help us by becoming an Officer or a member of our Committee? We are now seeking nominations (deadline noon on 7 July). Could you, for example, perhaps assist or take over from our PR/webmaster?

If you would like to know more, please contact me on 07809198202 or email us (address on the right).

Thank you all for your encouragement, support, attendance and feedback.

Here's to a successful year.

*Lynne Martin*

**Chairman**

Keep in touch:

**TALK** to any of the Committee members at one of our meetings

**EMAIL** westerhamU3A@hotmail.co.uk

**WATCH** [www.westerhamU3A.org](http://www.westerhamU3A.org) – our website detailing new events and outings, study groups and activities

**WRITE** c/o Membership Secretary, Fiddlers Field, Croydon Rd, Westerham, Kent TN16 1TX

Tel: 01959 562274

**Westerham**  
**U3A**

## Open Meetings (OMs): 2017/18 programme

**13 July**

AGM

*50 years of collecting autographs*

Geoff Green

**10 August**

Tea at Titsey Place (no OM)

**14 September**

*Samuel Pepys*

John Halligan

**12 October**

*For what it's worth - valuing antiques*

Janie Ramsay

**9 November**

*Shakespeare*

Christopher Lloyd

**14 December**

*Christmas party*

**11 January**

*The Salutation Garden*

**OMs are held at 2.00pm at  
Westerham Hall**

There is parking outside (payable)  
and disabled access

## STUDY GROUPS RUNNING

Allotment Group - Appreciating Architecture - Appreciating Great Paintings - Archaeology & History – Badminton - Basic Science Concepts - Birdwatching - Bridge (teams & improvers) - Book Club - Circle Dancing - Current Affairs - Cycling - Digital Image Manipulation Photography (1st year/2nd year/3rd year) – Family History - Fly Fishing - French (beginners & conversation & advanced) - Gardening - Handicrafts – i-Pad - Italian Conversation - Local Studies - London Studies - Mahjong - Military History - Opera - Poetry - Public Speaking - Science and Technology - Small Houses and Gardens of Historical Interest - Spanish (beginners & conversation) - Sunday Lunch - Theatre and Film - Travel Book Club – Veterans' Tennis - Walking Group - Watercolour Painting - Wine and beer Appreciation - Yoga.

## COFFEE MORNING DATES 2017/18

3 July; 7 August; 4 September;

2 October; 6 November; 4 December;

8 January 2018

Coffee Mornings are usually held on the first Monday of each month (except months with bank holidays), at the Grasshopper on the Green, from 10.30.



## UPCOMING OUTINGS

### Tea at Titsey: 10 August



Our guided visit with a home-made afternoon tea at the lovely Titsey Place is only two months away. (NB there is no August OM). Cost: £20 pp.

This manor house in Oxted is set in beautiful gardens in stunning countryside.



We are hoping to arrange a visit to the Globe Theatre (pictured), and another to Mapledurham House – details to be posted on the website soon.



## GROUP FOCUS

### How to join a group

A list of current groups can be found in the Handbook on pages 7-31. As new groups are created, they will be featured on the website, on our new study group display boards, and announced at OMs.

To join a group, you must **get in touch with the Group contact** - their details (name, phone and email) are available in the Handbook.

Groups that are full usually have a waiting list, so either a new group can be formed when there is enough interest, or those at the top of the list will be invited to join when there are spaces.

## 2016/17 COMMITTEE

Lynne Martin – Chair; Tina Rhoda – Vice Chair; Alan Essex – Treasurer; Linda Little – Secretary; Stuart Barnes (groups); Sue Hurst; Kay Ions (front of house); Sharon Lord (membership) and Louise Wood.

### SUGGESTIONS:

Do let us know what you think, and any helpful suggestions you have:

- Speakers you have heard who may be suitable for our OMs
- Visits undertaken, perhaps with other organisations, which would suit our U3A, or social visits and events where members meet each other informally
- Ideas for study groups.

## Results from our 2017 member survey

Our members wanted more **outings!** This is already underway with a new Working Party organising 'Open Outings' regularly.

In addition, where possible, outings arranged by specific study groups will be opened to all members.

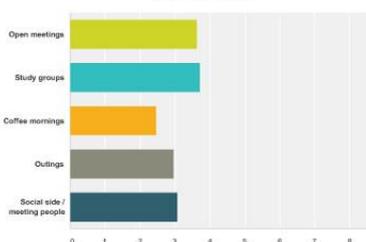
Remember to check our new outings webpage [westerhamu3a.org/outings](http://westerhamu3a.org/outings) where a variety of events will be on offer.

**Study groups:** 32% of you wanted more study groups. *But this can only happen if there are ideas from members and more offers to co-ordinate groups.* If you would like to be a group leader, there is help and advice available. Don't be shy.

*Full survey results on the website*

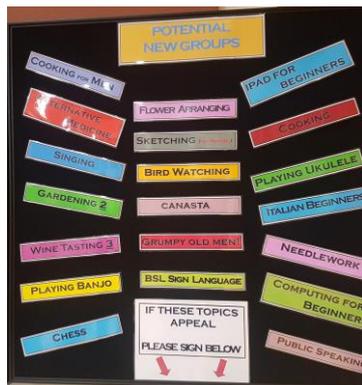
Q1 On a scale of 1-5 (where 1 is the best) please say what you like most about Westerham U3A?

Answered: 99 Skipped: 0



## Your new Handbook

Thank you all for renewing your membership. Your new Handbook, detailing our range of Study Groups is here.



While there is already a terrific choice, a number of groups are waiting for a new, enthusiastic person to lead them.

## Autograph hunting

At our AGM, U3A member Geoff Green, who has been an avid autograph hunter for over 50 years, will discuss different aspects of autograph collecting.

Geoff's talk will give the audience a rare insight, as he takes a light hearted look at his brief encounters with the rich and famous, and the signing habits of celebrities.

## Welcome!



Look out for our band of Welcomers at OMs.

## AGM with a difference

Don't forget our AGM and birthday party at 2pm on 13 July. Please come and enjoy a special members' tea.



Our volunteer Committee always welcomes help. There will be vacancies for new Committee members and opportunities to shadow existing members. Nomination forms are available on the website.

If you are able to assist in any way, please contact one of the Committee.

[westerhamU3A@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:westerhamU3A@hotmail.co.uk)

[www.westerhamU3A.org](http://www.westerhamU3A.org)

