



It is better to keep your mouth closed and let people think you are a fool than to open it and remove all doubt!



## The next Coffee Morning is on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 10.30am

This month is a special event as recently joined members have been invited to come along and discover more about what the u3a has to offer. It is an excellent opportunity to chat about the activities and make some new friends, over coffee, in the front room of Westerham Hall.



## The next Open Meeting, held in Westerham Hall, is on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm SOE - Special Operations Executive by Gilly Halcrow

Gillian researched the brave men and women SOE agents who served their country in World War II. The SOE's task was to organize resistance in countries that had been occupied by the Nazis and obey Churchill's orders to 'Set Europe Ablaze'. She has been fascinated by the subject for many years and will capture your interest from the start, moving you from laughter to tears, talking of the training and preparation together with stories of the missions, some amazing successes but others were betrayed ...



## Dates for your Diary

May 7<sup>th</sup> Wednesday - Coffee morning

May 8<sup>th</sup> Thursday - Open Meeting - "An Unexpected Winter in Arctic Darkness" by Alex Hibbert

June 18<sup>th</sup> Wednesday - Visit to Chevening House - this visit is fully booked.

July 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday - Summer outing to Petworth House and Park – this visit is fully booked

## Your u3a is under threat! No secretary could mean no Westerham u3a!

Contact Tony for more details [westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk)

The position will become vacant at the AGM and no one has yet come forward. With 400+ members, surely there is someone who can take on this role, which requires approx. 4 hours per month, plus attendance at committee meetings? The u3a ethos is that of self-help, we all have a role to play for Westerham u3a to continue to be successful. So! Please step forward!

## Sevenoaks u3a Science Seminar June 4<sup>th</sup> Contact Bob [science@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk](mailto:science@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk)

This is held at the Orchards Conference Centre, East Malling and the topic is "AI & Robotics in Agriculture". Further details about booking will follow soon but tickets sell very quickly so please put the date in your diary to make sure you don't miss this popular event.

## News from the Groups

### 'Help with Computers' Session 2 – 'WhatsApp' at 2pm on Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup>

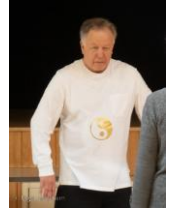


The hall was filled with members wanting to know more! The subject was WhatsApp and who would have thought it was so versatile! Firstly, everything it can do is free, if using WiFi, so it is a big plus for sending photographs or videos which use lots of data and often incur extra cost. Setting up groups was covered and if you have ever tried to organise meetings then the Poll application is a godsend. There was a lot to take in but fortunately Ian did produce an aide memoire which is proving very useful! The next session is on **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April** at 2pm and the topic – 'Calendars and Note Taking'.

**New Group 'Tai Chi'** contact Lionel [westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk)



The first sessions of this new group took place on 4th & 6th March as, due to the overwhelming response, Lionel agreed to run 2 groups! As an observer it was extremely relaxing to watch, the slow soft movements were mesmerising, it's strange to think it began as a martial art! The participants



looked very professional even though, for most, it was their first experience. Although both classes are full, contact Lionel if you are interested and he will put you on the waiting list.

**Moor Park Mansion Thursday July 17<sup>th</sup>** contact Jan [westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk)



Apart from the occasional talk/visit, the Architecture Group has been inactive recently, so I have no idea who is still interested. Therefore, I am opening the latest event to all! We are visiting Moor Park Mansion, near Rickmansworth, for a guided tour of this neo-Palladian mansion set in 350 acres of parkland. The site once belonged to Cardinal Wolsey but is now the home of the Moor Park Golf Club - a truly unique 19th hole! The tour will

start at 1pm with a presentation, plus tea, coffee and biscuits, and will last about an hour, leaving time to enjoy the park in the (hopefully) sunshine. The cost is £10pp and there are only 20 spaces available so book in soon to guarantee your place!

**Sunday Lunch Group 2** contact Nick [westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk)

Earlier this year the group visited the new, Indian Summer, restaurant in Westerham for their excellent buffet lunch consisting of a starter followed by an 'all you can eat' main course. There was an excellent selection of food at a very reasonable cost. An old favourite is Bletchingley Golf Club which has a well-stocked carvery with a large choice of starters and sweets, so we visited there in March. The group currently meets bi-monthly and has around 23 members, but the average attendance is only about 15. Any group member is welcome to suggest a venue.

**Wine Appreciation** contact Fiona [westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk)

Offers like this don't arise very often! This group has space for a couple of new members! They are likely to be filled very quickly so contact Fiona if you are interested.

**Local Studies Group** contact Tricia [westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk)

The group visit last month was to Biggin Hill Airport where there is a garden called 'The Strongest Link' which was the RAF Airbase's name during the Battle of Britain. The centrepiece is an impressive 4metre statue, made from 223 layers of stainless steel, and dedicated to the Airmen who were based there in WWII. It was funded by 'Project Giving Back' and Biggin Hill Airport and, after being displayed at the Chelsea Flower Show, it was transferred to this, its permanent home. *Editor's note: nearby is the chapel and a small museum containing memorabilia.*



(Report by Pam Bradley)

**Badminton** contact Ron [westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk)

This Caterham group meets on Mondays and Thursdays 2pm-4pm at the Queen's Park Pavilion, Caterham on the Hill and our members are very welcome to join in.

**Snooker** contact Mike [snooker@edenbridgeu3a.co.uk](mailto:snooker@edenbridgeu3a.co.uk)

This Edenbridge group meets alternate Wednesday afternoons at Victoria Club, Lingfield and is looking for new players.

**Potential New Groups** – contact Stuart [westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk)

If you have done a bit of **Sketching** and would like to do more or maybe fancy taking part in some fun **Singing** then register your interest for more information.