

Wishing you all a  
very Merry  
Christmas



Are you on Santa's naughty  
list? If so, think how much  
fun you had getting there!

**The next Coffee Morning is on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30am**

December 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday – **There is NO Coffee Morning**

January 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday – **There is NO Coffee Morning**

**There is no Open Meeting in December due to the Christmas Lunch on December 12<sup>th</sup>**



**The next Open Meeting is on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 2pm**

**'Surviving 60 years in journalism'** by Nicholas Owen

From local newspaper reporter to TV news Presenter plus a few other mad telly moments. He covered the Royal "beat" in the 1990s, the Diana years and was even on 'Strictly' in 2006!



## Dates for your Diary

February 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday - Coffee morning

February 13<sup>th</sup> Thursday - Open Meeting 'The String of Pearls' by Bob Evans

March 24<sup>th</sup> Monday - A special 'u3a Wellbeing' afternoon. Look out for further details in 2025

## Know Your Committee

A warm welcome to Chris Felgate, who has agreed to be co-opted onto the Committee and has already got involved with several projects. Formerly an HR Director, he had extensive experience in National Emergency Planning, the Probation Service and Further Education until retiring in 2011. He joined Westerham u3a in 2020 and, as well as coordinating the Musical Theatre Group, is now involved with the Walking Group and London Explorers. In his spare time he enjoys swimming, golf and playing with four active grandchildren!



## 'Help with Computers' Session Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>



Illustrating how very important this subject is for many people, 46 members crowded into the hall to hear Ian give a general summary on what we hope to achieve with this new group. He explained that there were problems associated with the variety of devices and systems on the market but we hope to accommodate many of them, by having smaller groups and specific topics, at future sessions next year. He stressed that due to data sensitivity, areas such as online banking would need to be done on a 1-2-1 basis. After partaking of tea and cake, a Q&A session brought out some interesting questions, which indicated what issues were causing people most stress. Of course, there were many questions to be answered at future meetings, but for anyone who feels they would benefit from a face to face session, it is possible to book an hour session at Oxted library on a Thursday morning (10.00-13.00) call 0345 600 9009.

## Lincolnshire Holiday 13-17<sup>th</sup> October 2025



**There has been insufficient support from members for the planned holiday to Lincolnshire next October. As we have been unable to meet the minimum number required by the travel company, the holiday has been cancelled.**

**Westerham Christmas Tree Festival** 28<sup>th</sup> November - 8<sup>th</sup> December at St Mary's Church. On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> the Festival ends with 'Carols on the Green' at 5pm. For full details visit [www.visitwesterham.org.uk/whats-on/xmas-tree-festival](http://www.visitwesterham.org.uk/whats-on/xmas-tree-festival). Last year the Flower Arranging and Wine Tasting Groups displayed their trees, in addition to our official one, is your group taking part this year? Trees must be completed on 27<sup>th</sup>

### **New Members Tea**

23 recently joined members attended the latest event so they could meet other newbies in a social context. Tony gave a brief overview of the benefits of membership followed by Jan explaining the workings of the interest groups, before everybody enjoyed an afternoon tea served by Pam and her team. Two new members were recruited at the event and we were delighted to be given some suggestions for new groups.



### **Drama For All**

'The Score' starring Brian Cox at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket on March 27<sup>th</sup>. Tickets have all been sold but contact Jan if you wish to be put on the waiting list for last minute returns.

### **Local Theatre**

**Miller Theatre, Caterham** 'The Secret Garden' 16<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> January

**Bromley Little Theatre** 'The Accidental Death of an Anarchist' 10<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> January

**Barn Theatre, Oxted** 'Jesus Christ Superstar' 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> December

**Churchill Theatre, Bromley** 'Snow White' 7<sup>th</sup> December-5<sup>th</sup> January

## **News from the Groups**

### **Science Group Visit**



In October the Group had a field trip to Bough Beech Water Treatment Plant which began with an introduction to the plant and its role in the local water supply. The tour was quite physically demanding, a walk round the dam and the reservoir was followed by a tour of the treatment works showing the dosing, filtration and treatment which ensures the water is fit for human consumption. There was a lot of walking, climbing stairs, descending the dam and walking through a 33m tunnel, but it was interesting and enjoyed by all and, hopefully, will be repeated and offered to all u3a members next year.

### **Musical Theatre Group**

The Group is inviting any member who would like to experience musical theatre to join them at any of the performances below. Let Chris know if you are interested.

#### **The Tina Turner Musical – February 6<sup>th</sup> Thursday matinee**

The story of this iconic woman's rise to fame, against all odds, is not to be missed. Tickets are just £39.50 and guarantee a fantastic afternoon!



Other performances planned are:

**March tbc - The Devil Wears Prada** - Cost £47.50

**April tbc - Starlight Express** - This show is held in a specially designed Starlight Auditorium at the Troubadour, Wembley Park. A coach has been reserved and the total cost is only £60!

**May/June - Oliver** - £59.50. (subject to confirmation)

**Hadestown** - The winner of 8 Tony Awards including Best Musical and a Grammy Award for Best Musical Theatre Album - Cost £49.50

**Cabaret** - Winner of 7 Olivier Awards including Best Musical Revival - Cost £75.

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