

'Cast not a clout until May is out'



So, keep your vest on and don't plant your annuals out!

# The next Coffee Morning is on Wednesday 1st May at 10.30am

Held in the front room of Westerham Hall, these events provide an excellent opportunity to chat and get to know other members.

The next Open Meeting is on Thursday 9th May in Westerham Hall at 2.00pm

Alfred Russel Wallace: 'The Man who lived in Darwin's Shadow' by Ray Hale Ray says "We owe so much to this humble now almost forgotten naturalist. Working at the same time as Darwin he arrived at the Theory of Evolution independently and his own essay to Darwin outlining his own ideas on evolution became the catalyst for Darwin to publish his own Origin of Species. Originally credited as co-author of the theory, today he stands in the shadows and was buried with little ceremony. Who knows what might have been had he published his own work first?"



## **Dates for your Diary**

June 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday - Coffee Morning June 13<sup>th</sup> Thursday - Open Meeting - Kirtles, Corsets & Curtains by Sarah Slater

# A Message from Tony, our Chairman: Are you doing your bit?



Almost all that happens within our u3a is due to members organising and doing it; we are a self-help organisation! All members are expected to contribute in some way - helping with the teas at Open Meetings, being an Interest Group Contact, organising a visit or joining the Committee, there is a role for everyone. Please, ask yourself, are you taking out more than you are putting in? Please think about how you can contribute and contact Tony

if you have an idea or want to get more involved. Currently we need help setting out chairs at our monthly Open Meetings – could that be you?

#### **Membership Reminder**

Have you renewed your Membership yet? Renewals were due at the beginning of April. We hope you will want to continue your membership of Westerham u3a so please renew as soon as possible in order to continue enjoying our activities. If you are reading this on the website or maybe borrowed it from a friend and haven't yet joined us, please do! You will be very welcome.

## Basildon Park Outing, Thursday 27th June. Contact Val

There are still a few seats on the coach available for our summer outing to Basildon Park, but time is running out! The cost is only £20 for the coach - plus £16.15 for entry to the house if you are not a member of the National Trust. Contact Val at once to ensure you get one of the remaining seats!

#### Riviera Travel www.rivieratravel.co.uk/u3a

Now that Spring has arrived you may be thinking about holidays? Mention your u3a when booking any city break, tour or cruise through Riviera and they will donate 10% of your holiday cost to the u3a when you travel. Take a look at their brochure or call 01283 742300.

# Boom Radio – the station 'for our generation'!

Listening to the radio recently I was surprised to hear the u3a being advertised, with members talking about the joy it has brought them! It plays records from the 60's, 70's and 80's with occasional new releases and features many of the DJ's from the pirate ships of the 60's. If you want to go back to the 50's then Boom Light is for you and there is even a Boom Rock!

#### **Drama for All**

## **Operation Mincemeat, Fortune Theatre** - contact Jan

This production is now fully booked for both June 18<sup>th</sup> and September 24<sup>th</sup> and if you have booked you should have received your ticket via email. If you are interested please contact Jan in case of last minute cancellations.

## God of Carnage, Westerham Hall 24th - 27th April 8:00pm

Westerham Amateur Dramatic Society's latest production is Yasmina Reza's 'God of Carnage' A deliciously savage dark comedy on modern manners. Set in Paris it explores the different ways in which human behaviour reacts when faced with conflict. After a playground fight the parents meet to discuss their children's behaviour and middle class civility is swept aside! For tickets book now

#### Articles needed! contact Jan

What is happening in your sphere? What news would you like to share with your fellow members? Please send me anything that you feel could be of interest together with photos if appropriate. I can't guarantee publication but there's a good chance!

# **News from the Groups**

#### Local Studies - contact Patricia



In March we visited Sevenoaks fire station and were made extremely welcome! During our visit there was a real life "shout out" as while we were looking at the fire engine an emergency call came through! We saw the firefighters get ready, board the engine and depart with sirens blazing for real. Fortunately, it was a false alarm as someone in an office building had accidently set it off by mistake, so they all returned within 10 minutes. Over tea and biscuits at the end of our visit we talked about the many types of incidents that firefighters must deal with, from putting out fires, rescuing people from rivers and floods, attending road traffic

accidents and suicide attempts. The officers willingly answered our many questions and we agreed that it had been a very interesting afternoon and well worth the visit. New members will be very welcome!

#### Canasta contact Pam

At the inaugural meeting it was agreed that meetings of the new Canasta Group would take place on the 4th Monday of the Month at 2pm in Westerham Hall and the next one was scheduled for the 22nd April Unfortunately the Westerham Amateur Dramatics Society are putting on a show at the Hall that week so the front room is not available. Therefore the



date of the first meeting proper has been re-scheduled for Monday 29th April. If you have any queries with regards the arrangements, please contact Pam.

## Caterham Associate Groups <a href="https://u3asites.org.uk/caterham/groups">https://u3asites.org.uk/caterham/groups</a>

Caterham u3a have a few Interest Groups that are particularly keen to recruit more members - Chess, Dancing, Japanese, Tai Chi, and Glee. Information about all these groups can be found by going to the Caterham u3a groups webpage. If you are interested, you will need to join Caterham u3a at their Associate membership rate, currently £9 pa.