



Remember,
remember, the
5th of
November,
Gunpowder,
treason and
plot



But don't
forget those
who gave
their lives for
our freedom
- and those
still giving!

Next Coffee Morning is Wednesday 5th November at 10.30am in the Hall Front Room



Coffee mornings continue to flourish so, if you know someone who would benefit from - and enjoy - being a u3a member, then bring them along to meet us. They can see for themselves what an excellent group we are and chat about our activities over a cup of tea/coffee

The next Open Meeting, held in Westerham Hall, is on Thursday 13th November at 2pm "Doodlebugs and Rockets" by Bob Ogley

He will describe those remarkable days in 1944 and 1945 when Kent was under attack from these pilotless planes, and the rockets which followed. He will describe the drama, the role of the RAF and the men on the anti-aircraft guns who played their part in defending our county. He will also tell the story of the V2 rocket which fell in Madan Road, Westerham on Sunday, March 11th, 1945 – just two months before VE Day. Bob's books have raised more than £100,000 for various charities - including the RAF Benevolent Fund and he is still churning them out! Since December last year he has written 'Sevenoaks 1940', 'Story of Sundridge', 'Story of Toys Hill' and will shortly be publishing 'Story of Knole Park'.



Dates for your Diary

Due to the room being used for a WADS play rehearsal there is no coffee morning in December.

Christmas Lunch at Westerham Golf Club Thursday 11th December 2 courses for £33

Bookings for the Christmas lunch are now being taken so look out for the email detailing the menu choices and complete as soon as you can to ensure you get a place. If you know of someone who may be considering joining the u3a then do invite them along and they can see what a lovely lot of people we are!

Changes to the AGM Process

From discussion with a number of members and looking at the attendance figures for the last two years, I think it is fair to say that AGMs are not the favourite go-to meeting of the year for many members. Whilst the Committee understands this, it is a very important meeting where you, the members, have the chance to put forward your views on the performance of our U3A. An email detailing the proposed changes will be circulated in the near future. (Chris Felgate)

New Hearology Clinic in Oxted visit the [Hearology website](https://www.hearology.com)

This clinic is opening this month on the site of the former HSBC bank in Station Road. It offers microsuction ear wax removal, diagnostic hearing tests, tinnitus and balance services, as well as custom earware products for swimming, sleeping and hearing protection. As an independent audiologist, they have a large selection of different hearing aid brands, models and form factors and so are able to find a solution that fits every lifestyle and wallet. As an introductory offer they are giving u3a members free ear health checks, free diagnostic hearing tests, 50% off microsuction ear cleaning and 30% off all hearing aids until the end of 2025. Why not arrange an appointment?

U3a Ethos Reminder!

Sometimes I wonder if anyone reads the newsletter! I get very little feedback so have every sympathy with the group contacts for Local Studies/Houses & Gardens (see below). Please try and be a bit more involved in what is going on and offer opinions or suggestions as requested! Many of you seem to have forgotten that u3a is run 'by the members for the members' but are happy to let someone else to do the work so that you can just turn up and enjoy the activity. This is unacceptable and as a result many groups will find themselves in the same situation in the future and your activities will be severely limited. Are you giving anything to the group or are you just taking? Examine your conscience and make a resolution to play your part next year!

Drama for All contact Jan westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk



Currently we have 'Women in Mind' (25th February) and 'I'm Sorry Prime Minister' (4th & 19th March) arranged, both of which are sold out – but you are welcome to join the waiting list! We are now looking for future productions and to my surprise one that has been suggested is 'The Mousetrap'! After 73 years and 30,000 performances, I would have thought the whole country must have seen it but obviously not! If you are interested, let me know and I will investigate. Please bear in mind that the plays offered will be ones that I want to see so do let me know what you would like as I am very willing to wander off the streets I know!

Local Theatre contact Jan westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk

Bromley Little Theatre are performing 'The Full Monty', 7th -15th November, at their premises at Bromley North. Performances start at 7.45 and tickets are £14

WADS, Westerham Hall Don't forget WADS 'Jack the Ripper' - a Gothic Musical Tale! It runs from 3-6th December and adult tickets are £15 from www.ticketsource.co.uk/wads

News from the Groups

NEW Excel Spreadsheets contact Stuart westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk

Following on from the 'Help with Computer' sessions held earlier this year, it was suggested that Ian would arrange a basic Excel session as spreadsheets can be so useful in many areas. We need to assess the level of interest before going forward with this so, if you would like to benefit from this, please register your interest with Stuart.

NEW 'The Night Sky' contact Jan westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk

A member has requested we form a group – nothing too high brow, just basic information about moons, planets, stars and eclipses – 'Looking at the Night Sky' - all topics that seem to feature regularly in the news these days! If this would be of interest to you, please let us know and, subject to demand, we will organise an introductory meeting.



Houses & Gardens/Local Studies – and several other groups!



These groups are suffering from a lack of support and are close to disbanding. It is the same story; everything is left to one or two people to organise and it is very disheartening when nobody offers to help. Please volunteer to organise a visit to somewhere of interest and prevent the collapse of these groups! It isn't hard to do!

Musicals contact Chris westerhamu3a@hotmail.co.uk

Already booked for next year are 'Top Hat' (January) and 'Come Alive' (February), the April offering being 'Cabaret'. If you don't want to miss out on future productions make sure you ask Chris to add you to his mailing list

You are receiving this as a member of Westerham u3a Charity Number 1178122

Our website: <https://www.westerhamu3a.org>

Our mailing address is:

Westerham u3a c/o Ruslyn, 72 Chestnut Copse, Oxted, RH8 0JJ

Copyright © 2025 Westerham u3a, All rights reserved.