

# TUNBRIDGE WELLS U3A NEWS

## June 2019



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
THE THIRD AGE

### CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

Further interpretation on the GDPR legislation, which was introduced last year, has been issued from National Office. The legal basis for us collecting and holding your contact data is now considered to be 'legitimate interest'. Accordingly, we have updated our application and renewal forms and updated our privacy and data protection policies. A link to the policies is on the About Us page on our website. Luckily, we have been informed that the only other action we had to take was to notify our members of this change through our newsletter, and there is no need for another vote on the change.

This means that our AGM should be fairly short this year and as we have only one nomination per committee role there will be no need for an election. Having said that, we do need at least 110 of you to come to be quorate, so do please come along and enjoy the strawberries and cream and a glass of cava and a chat with your committee and other members.

One of the subjects on the data protection policy was photographs of members being included in the newsletter and possible promotion material. It really isn't practical to have written permission from every member in a group before taking a group photograph, so we are putting the onus on you. If you don't want to be included in any photos, please either move out of shot or ask the photographer to delete any photo that you may be in. Of course, most of us are quite pleased to see our pictures in print, even if we may have preferred it to be taken from a more flattering angle.

[Sue Brimlow](#), *Chairman*, Tel: 01892 863691

## COMING UP

### MONTHLY MEETINGS

at 2.30pm at the Camden Centre

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June

## AGM



followed by strawberries and cream and a glass of bubbly

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July

The National  
Memorial Arboretum  
a talk by Roger Hailwood

### MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS

at Trinity from 10.30 – 12.00

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June



Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July

### OUR OUTINGS

There will be outings on

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June to  
**Polesden Lacey**  
fully booked

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July to  
**Hatfield House**  
places available – see Outings News

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> August to  
**Manston and Reculver**  
booking form is on p.12

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# YOUR COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU



**TO COME TO THE AGM ON JUNE 20<sup>th</sup>**

We need 10% of our members to be able to vote in  
new committee members, which means we need  
**at least 110** to attend.

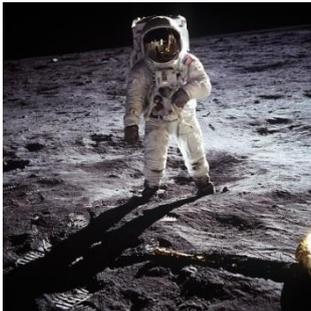
*Please join us after the AGM  
for a glass of bubbly and strawberries and cream.*



**The AGM starts promptly at 2.30 at the Camden Centre.**

## REMINDER!

### SPACE EXPLORATION: ROCKETS AND THE MOON



*Astronaut Buzz Aldrin on the Moon*  
Image from NASA in public domain

Tickets are still available for the seminar to be given Professor David Southwood on the afternoon of Tuesday **13<sup>th</sup> August** at the Camden Centre which was announced in last month's Newsletter.

The two sessions will cover ***The Dawn of the Space Age*** and ***The Race to the Moon***.

Details and application form are on page 11.

*Adrian Twiner, Business Secretary*

## REMINDER!

### Summer Evening Barbecue on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July

There are still a few tickets left for the barbecue. Details and application form are on page 10 below.

If you do not have your own personal transport, please put your home address on your application form for the barbecue on Friday 19 July. Then we can match you with others who would like to share a taxi, or we may be able to pair you with members who have booked a ticket, and do have their own car.

## SHORT BREAKS REPORT

**Our Short Break away in 2020 is to beautiful South Devon.**

We depart on 11<sup>th</sup> May for 5 days. We will stay in Torquay on a half board basis. The price includes our own coach throughout, gratuities, hotel, a full excursion programme and entrance fees to non-National Trust properties, a trip to the theatre and a cream tea!

We will visit Kingston Lacy, Dartmouth, Greenway, Powderham Castle, Buckfast Abbey, Coletton Fishacre, World of Country Life with Deer Safari ride and Stourhead.

The cost is £454.00 per person sharing a double/twin room. **Many** people have already expressed an interest and the 14 single rooms have been taken. (Reserve list)

For more information and to view the full itinerary please click on the View Your Tour tab at [www.tailored-travel.co.uk](http://www.tailored-travel.co.uk) and quote **tuwu201**. Alternately send me a **LARGE** stamped addressed envelope for a printed brochure.

Please phone or email for queries:

Sandra McDonald

01892 752196

<mailto:sarn.mcd@hotmail.com>

*Text and Photo by Sandra McDonald  
Short Breaks Co-ordinator*



## OUTINGS NEWS

The outing for May at the triple venue of **Heaven Farm, Standen, and Saint Hill Manor** was a great success on a beautiful sunny spring day (the next day it poured with rain), and full details of this day out follow this report.

Our outing on 11th June to **Polesden Lacey** is fully booked and we look forward to another fine day at this National Trust property with Robby Holmes and Lynne Monckton, who are the organisers for this trip.

At the time of writing, the trip to **Hatfield House** on Wednesday 10th July still has some places left. You will find the application form in the May Newsletter, or you can check for availability by telephoning Sylvia Joyce on 01892 319070 or Sheila Austin on 07966 578417 or 01892 542747.



Photo of spitfire by Devon S A (Mr),  
Royal Air Force official photographer [Public domain]

On Tuesday 6th August we will be going to the **Spitfire and Hurricane Memorial Museum and RAF Manston History Museum**. Stella Westrup and Rosemary Rees have also arranged to go back via Reculver to see where trials of the bouncing bomb were held, so it will be a very full and interesting trip. The application form is on page 12 of this month's Newsletter, so do not delay sending your applications in, as I am sure this outing will prove very popular.

*Joan Young  
Outings Co-ordinator*



## ERRATUM

Please note that the **Report on the Outing to Bletchley Park** which appeared in the May Newsletter was wrongly credited to Judy Bailey. It was in fact written by **Sheila Austin**.

Photo of Bletchley Park by Stella Westrup

## Report on the Outing to Heaven Farm, Standen and Saint Hill Manor

We set off on a bright but chilly morning on our ‘three-for-the-price-of-one’ outing to Heaven Farm, Standen and Saint Hill Manor.

After taking a lovely country route we arrived at Heaven Farm, ready for our coffee. There was then time to look around the Rural Life Museum and out-buildings of this model farm dating from the 1830s. ‘Grandma’s Room’ in an old oast was particularly full of treasures.



Standen House

Photo by DAVID ILIFF. License: CC-BY-SA 3.0  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=32781187>  
the extensive grounds where many of the tulips were a little past their best, but the azaleas and rhododendrons ably compensated.

Next stop was Standen, where our very helpful coach driver stopped on the flat avoiding the steep slope from the car park. Already a favourite of many U3A members, the house was as interesting as ever – always giving the feeling that it had been a much-loved family home (albeit on a grand scale) rather than a stately home. There was an exhibition of handmade, clothes handbags, etc. – many in silk -- beautiful work but necessarily expensive.

There was time for lunch in the very attractive Barn Restaurant; a browse around



Our final destination was Saint Hill Manor, just a few minutes away. After a warm welcome our two groups had a tour of this beautiful late Georgian Manor House. The conservatory, known as the Winter Garden, was especially attractive – what a setting for the traditional Saint Hill Christmas Tree. In the library we were informed that L. Ron Hubbard (the first Executive Director of

the Church of Scientology) was the most prolific and most published author ever. The tour ended with a cream tea in the astonishing and very elegant monkey room –

the mural was painted by Spencer Churchill, nephew of Sir Winston, and depicts ‘more than 140 monkeys of 20 different species at leisure and play in an Arcadian landscape.’



The likeness of the monkey representing Sir Winston was uncanny. After tea we were able to admire Hubbard’s 1960 XK-150 S Jaguar or stroll down to the lake with its geese and goslings.

The only disappointment in a very enjoyable day was the non-appearance of Tom Cruise.

Photos of St Hill Manor and Standen Garden by Stella Westrup and of the Monkey Room by Sandra McDonald

Lorna Jones

## SUNDAY CARVERY AT THE MASONIC HALL



33 of us indulged in the excellent carvery at the Masonic Hall on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May. Many thanks to Jean Brushfield of the Events Committee for organising such an enjoyable occasion.

*Eryll Fabian*



## GROUP REPORT

### LONDON EXPLORERS 4



We had a very interesting day visiting the beautiful Italian Gardens at Kensington Park. Unfortunately you can't see the lovely water fountain behind the group. However, we all enjoyed the view.

◀ Kensington Palace

We also visited Sambourne House, which was well worth it. Very interesting home of Linley Sambourne (Punch illustrator) Grade II listed house.

Day organised by Rosemarie and Veronica.

*Text & photos by Suzette Elliott-West*

*Group Contact*



# UPDATE ON GROUPS

## New Groups

THE PATCHWORK GROUP will hold its first meeting in early June and will continue to meet monthly on the first Thursday afternoon. It is suitable for all levels and there will be plenty of help on offer. The contact is [Sally Turner](#) or 07803 844 392.

THE NEW SPANISH BEGINNERS GROUP will meet on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday afternoons. If you would like to join, please contact 01892 689832 or [Hilary Melville](#).

THE NEW CHESS GROUP starts on June 4<sup>th</sup> 11.00 to 12.30 at Trinity and then on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. There is room for more, both beginners and more experienced players. Please contact [Howard Jones](#) or 01892 531060.

## Latest News

OUT AND ABOUT WEEKENDERS now have their visits on the last weekend of the month. They have enjoyed trips to Teapot Island, Penshurst Place, Down House, Pashley Manor and Ightham Mote. They welcome both car drivers and non car drivers. Contact [Sandra McDonald](#) or 01892 752196.

Lionel Cole's ROMAN HISTORY class will resume in October under the new title DARK AGE EUROPE 500-900 AD. Members will explore the main themes in European history for that period. For instance, did the rise of Islam shut down Mediterranean trade and lead to the decline of towns in western Europe? Did the Vikings do more than create havoc? Contact [Lionel](#) or 01580 752663.

RUMMIKUB is a strategic numbers game using tiles. I am assured it is a good one to teach the grandchildren. Please let me know if you would like to find out more and help set up this new group. Contact [Jan](#) or 01892 860554.

PLAY ACTING We are able to offer a new group which will meet once a month to practise acting skills. Scripts will be provided and you are promised lots of fun. Contact [Jan](#) or 01892 860554.



Trying Rummikub at a Trinity Coffee Morning

## Further Opportunities

GRAPHOLOGY A chance to learn handwriting analysis, initially on a one to one basis, leading up to working as a group. Please contact [Anthea Hall](#) or 01892 862027.

Photo by Adrian Twiner on Jan's mobile

THE POETRY GROUP would welcome a few more members to bring even more ideas and opinions to their very lively discussions. Contact [Elaine Royal](#) or 01892 524537.

DESIGNING THE FUTURE A chance to join in discussions on some of the important issues we may face in the years to come. Contact [David Greenhalgh](#) or 01892 671737.

SINGING FOR PLEASURE would welcome more gentlemen to enable them to continue giving concerts at local care homes and other venues. Contact [Adrian Twiner](#) or 01892 459352.

CREATIVE WRITING The group members agree a theme and read their offerings to one another. Meetings are on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday mornings. Contact [Don Laurie](#) or 01892 539951.

5 MILE MONTHLY WALKING GROUP A small group who enjoy walking in the countryside and an occasional pub lunch. Contact [Joy Podbury](#) or 01892 315549.

WINE GROUP 1 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday. Contact [David Britton](#) or 01892 528785.

WINE GROUP 2 4<sup>th</sup> Friday. Contact [Jan Seddon](#) or 07815 188471.

LONDON EXPLORERS 5 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday. Contact [Bob Slater](#) or 01892 547520.

LONDON EXPLORERS 6 1<sup>st</sup> Friday. Contact [Helen Seddon](#) or 07866 67701.

**For more information or to join new groups please contact Jan Sumner, Groups Coordinator [twu3agroupcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:twu3agroupcoordinator@gmail.com) or phone 01892 860554.**

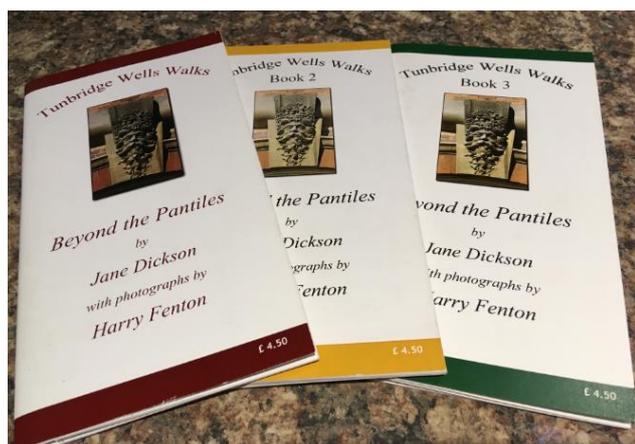
## AN INVITATION FROM FRANT BOWLS CLUB

Frant Bowls Club invites Tunbridge Wells U3A members to come and have a go. Sessions take place on Tuesdays at 4.30 pm from May to September. All standards of play welcome with free coaching for those who are new to the sport. Bowls can be provided. The club is friendly and sociable. There is a club house and licensed bar.

Contact Chris Hall 01892 652483 or email [captain@frantbowls.uk](mailto:captain@frantbowls.uk)

## !! We're Spreading Our Wings !!

### SHARED LEARNING PROJECT



Do you recognise the booklets in the photograph? Several years ago, Jane Dickson, Harry Fenton and Colin Huggett, worked with the Civic Society to produce these. They were sold in Waterstones and raised over £3,000 for Hospice in the Weald. Jane is downsizing and sent me some of the original material. Harry has kindly provided me with his photographs too.

We thought it would make an interesting Shared Learning Project to work again with the Civic Society and the Friends of the Tunbridge Wells Museum, Art Gallery and Library to bring the

booklets up-to date and reissue them. This time any funds raised would go towards the £15,000 costs of conserving the museum's stunning Georgian court dress.

If you are interested in getting involved in this project, please contact me by phone (01892 863691) or [email](mailto:sue@frantbowls.uk).

*Sue Brimlow*

### Introducing a new initiative – 'Useful to Know Talks'

I regularly hear from people offering to give talks to us, but there's often an element of selling involved or they're not really suitable for our monthly speaker talks. I'm aware that some of the talks would be of interest though, so we're going to trial a couple of informative talks to see if we think they are of value.

The first one has been booked for **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October** from **3 to 4.30pm** in the Victoria Suite in the Camden Centre and will be about **Power of Attorney**. The talk will 45 minutes long and there will be an opportunity for questions afterwards. We will not be charging for the talk and there is no need to book. However, an indication of numbers would be useful, so please could you [email](mailto:sue@frantbowls.uk) or call me on 863691 if you plan to come. The talk will start promptly at 3pm but the room will not be available until 2.45.

*Sue Brimlow*

## A REPORT ON THE MAY MONTHLY MEETING

### THINGS THAT GO BUMP IN THE AFTERNOON!

A well-attended albeit slightly apprehensive U3A group welcomed Rupert Mathews to the Camden Centre on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May for his talk on Ghosts in Kent. Those expecting to be chilled to the bone were surely disappointed as Rupert regaled us with a light-hearted and highly entertaining discourse on supernatural sightings, spirits and spectres in our area. Having dispensed with the mythical image of a see through ectoplasmic apparition, Rupert described different types of ghosts including the place-focused, classic ghost who always appears in the same place, is non responsive, always does the same thing and will only appear a number of times before seemingly running out of energy. An example is the grey-suited man who appears at a sharp bend in Broomhill Road; he stands quietly and raises his hand before vanishing. You will need to be extremely alert to see him as he only stays 2 seconds but he visits the same spot 5 or 6 times a year so if you take a diversion late one night .... If you don't see the grey-suited man you might catch a glimpse of the monks of Bayham Abbey walking slowly to the chancel before vanishing – allegedly they loom into view twice a year so as well as looking out for the notoriously dangerous deer you might want to cast your gaze towards the ruins!

There is also the folk-lore ghost such as Thomas Seberg a part-time farmer and part-time highwayman eventually hanged for his misdeeds on the gibbet at Ringwell near the 5 Bells Pub. He is characteristic of the ghost who has an intriguing story – in his case buried gold and treasure which he returns to find. No-one ever sees him but everyone locally is familiar with the story.

Then there is perhaps the most investigated type of ghost – the poltergeist (German translation – noisy ghost). A short-lived manifestation, it will focus on a particular person usually undergoing a stressful or significant period in their life. A family in Five Oak Green experienced the disquietude and havoc wrought by such ghosts when they moved into a normal, quiet house which soon became anything but, with increasingly larger objects moving around of their own accord accompanied by loud bangs and knockings. On investigation it was discovered that the teenaged daughter of the family was having boyfriend trouble and after a few months the poltergeist moved on. Those of us in the U3A probably have no need to worry – poltergeist are usually interested in the 12 to 25 year old age group.

Another type of ghost is the Crisis Apparition -- these are interactive revenants often staying longer than the usual 2 seconds, who only appear at times of catastrophe or departure and often visit family members or friends. An example of such was the neighbour who waved to a lady from Margate while she was on holiday and invited her to join him for a cup of tea. She looked away briefly and her neighbour had disappeared. She later discovered that he had dropped down dead at the precise time he had invited her to go for a cuppa! This is proof that the young have not invented the modern practice of ghosting – see social media for explanation!

After presenting these highly convincing stories of local hauntings, Rupert was able to reassure us that unearthly happenings often have rational explanations such as the Grey Lady of Pembury who turned out to be mist rising from an underground stream. He told us that the British Psychic Society has found that 78% of manifestations can be explained through science and reason. However, should you ever be alone on a dark and stormy night and there is a tapping at the window, you might remember the remaining 22%.

*Eileen Harris*

### FORTHCOMING MONTHLY MEETINGS

- 20<sup>th</sup> June:** **AGM** followed by strawberries and cream and a glass of bubbly.  
**18<sup>th</sup> July:** Roger Hailwood will talk to us about the National Memorial Arboretum visited by the U3A group last year.  
**15<sup>th</sup> August:** James Taylor will speak on Charles Darwin and the Voyage of HMS Beagle.

## Useful Information and Important Messages

### Events in June and July

We have the following events arranged for June and July:

11 <sup>th</sup> June	Julia Cruse Seminar: <b>Cunning Regal Women</b> – by ticket
20 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>AGM</b> followed by strawberries and cream
28 <sup>th</sup> June	Coffee Morning at Trinity
18 <sup>th</sup> July	Monthly Meeting: <b>The National Memorial Arboretum</b> , a talk by Roger Hailwood
19 <sup>th</sup> July	BBQ at the Nevill Golf Club – by ticket
26 <sup>th</sup> July	Coffee Morning at Trinity

### Forthcoming Events For Your Diary

13 <sup>th</sup> August	Seminar: David Southwood, <b>Space Exploration: Rockets and the Moon</b> – by ticket
15 <sup>th</sup> August	Monthly Meeting: <b>Charles Darwin and the Voyage of HMS Beagle</b> , a talk by James Taylor
7 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	Games Afternoon – details later
1 <sup>st</sup> Oct.	First “Useful to Know” Talk on <b>Power of Attorney</b> – see page 8 above
19 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	Quiz Evening – details later
28 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	Study Day: Various speakers (Art) – details later
12 <sup>th</sup> Dec.	U3A Christmas Lunch at the Masonic Hall – details later

### New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members who have joined since 1<sup>st</sup> May:

Peter Avgherinos	Linda Grigsby	Elizabeth Strang
Michael Bott	Jill Potter	Chris Waters
Annette Goodfellow	Alan Smith	Linda Wenham

### Your Committee

Chairman	Sue Brimlow	01892 863691
Vice-Chairman	Adrian Twiner	01892 459352
Secretary	Wendy Maher	01892 325272
Treasurer	David Scott	01892 701950
Group Coordinator	Jan Sumner	01892 860554
Membership Secretary	Ruth Johnson	01892 523097
Outings Coordinator	Joan Young	01892 546687
Business Secretary	Adrian Twiner	01892 459352
Newsletter	Eryll Fabian	01892 513805
Short Breaks & Holidays	Sandra McDonald	01892 752196

### A Message from the Editor:

Members' photos and articles about group activities, places visited and anything relating to U3A events are always welcome. We can't guarantee to print them but will do our best if space allows.

If anyone objects to their photo being reproduced in this Newsletter, they should contact the editor. All contributions to the **June** Newsletter should be e-mailed to [Eryll Fabian](mailto:Eryll.Fabian@u3a.org.uk) by 30<sup>th</sup> June at the latest (**earlier submissions will be welcome!**) or phone 01892 513805.



### **National Events**

Details of interesting national events appear on the website: They can be found on [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk) or by writing to:  
The Third Age Trust, 52 Lant Street, London SE1 1RB



TUNBRIDGE WELLS U3A  
**Summer Evening Barbecue**

We look forward to welcoming you to the Nevill Golf Club on **Friday 19 July 2019**.

We have booked the first floor room and, if the weather is kind, we can also be outside on the balcony.  
After the meal, there will be music for anyone who would like to dance.

**Please arrive at the venue from 7.00 pm for the Barbecue at 7.30 pm.**

The address is: **The Nevill Golf Club, Benhall Mill Rd, Tunbridge Wells TN2 5JW**

There is ample parking for cars at the venue.

The cost per person for the two course barbecue meal is **£26.00**, including room hire and gratuities.  
The first course (including beef, salmon and chicken) will be served with salads and breads.  
For the second course, you will be able to choose from several desserts, followed by coffee or tea.

Drinks can be purchased before the meal, and during the evening, from the ground floor bar.

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**Please bring your ticket(s) with you on the day.**

Any queries to Di Brown by email to: [dmzbrown@gmail.com](mailto:dmzbrown@gmail.com); or phone her on 01892 529 999

Post your completed application form, together with your cheque for the ticket(s) to:

**Di Brown, The Corner House, 44 Pennine Walk, Tunbridge Wells, TN2 3NW**

Your ticket(s) will be emailed to you. **If you require a paper copy, please send a SAE.**



I/We enclose a cheque for £ .....made payable to **Tunbridge Wells U3A**

Name ..... Membership no.....

Email address..... Phone no.....

If you are paying for your partner or a U3A friend, please include their details below

Name .....Membership no.....

Email address.....Phone no.....

Please say here if (either of) you need a vegetarian meal YES/NO

# TUNBRIDGE WELLS U3A SCIENCE SEMINAR ON TUESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

## Space Exploration: Rockets and the Moon

The speaker for this seminar is Professor David Southwood, who spoke to us last October at the Study Day at Paddock Wood. Professor Southwood is a planetary scientist, currently Chairman of the Steering Board of the UK Space Agency, Senior Research Investigator at Imperial College, and a past President and Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society.

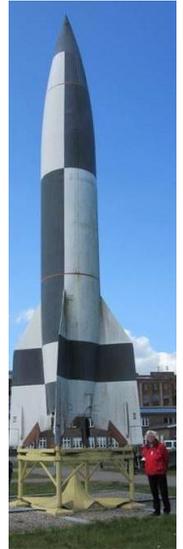
**Date:** Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> August 2019

**Venue:** The Main Hall, The Camden Centre, Tunbridge Wells

**Cost:** £6 per person

**Programme:**  
**from** 2.30 p.m. Registration

David Southwood in front of V2 rocket at Peenemunde  
Photo by Sue Southwood



2.50 – 3.50 The first lecture, **The Dawn of the Space Age.** The space age began independently first in Tsarist Russia and then in Weimar Germany with individual visionaries realising the potential of rockets whose thrust could be controlled, for space exploration. The Moon and Mars were the targets of these early visionaries. However, both in Russia and in Germany it was the military potential that led to practical rockets. The USA had a faltering start in the twenties and was rather late entering the race because the military potential of rockets was initially discounted. By the end of WWII Germany had shown the destructive capabilities of rockets and nobody could ignore the new technology.

3.50 – 4.15 Tea Break

4.15 – 5.15 The second lecture, **The Race to the Moon.** By the 1950s scientists and the general public realised that rockets were important for space science and space exploration. So it happened that at the height of the Cold War, a missile race between the Soviet Union and the USA transformed into a race to the Moon. Why were the Soviets so far ahead at the beginning? What went wrong? How and when did the Americans pull ahead and ultimately win? 50 years later, where are we now?

**Organiser:** Adrian Twiner 01892 459352 [adriantwiner@gmail.com](mailto:adriantwiner@gmail.com)

**N.B. This seminar is open to U3A members in West Kent**

To reserve a place please copy and complete the slip below and send it with your cheque and SAE to: **Adrian Twiner, 16, Bishops Court, Bishops Down Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 8XL**  
Please remember to enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for your ticket, which will be sent out from late June.

Please retain for information.

✂ .....

I/We wish to attend the Tunbridge Wells U3A Science Seminar on **Space Exploration: Rockets and the Moon** and enclose a cheque for £6 per person, made payable to **TW U3A**.

Name(s): .....

Address: .....

Telephone No: ..... Email address: .....

I enclose a cheque for £..... (£6 per person)

U3A Members only

**Outing to Spitfire and Hurricane Memorial Museum  
and RAF Manston History Museum  
Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

This month's outing is to **Manston**, where its aviation days started as a Royal Naval Station in 1916. By 1917, it had grown considerably to include underground hangars, its own railway line to Birchington, a power station and barracks for 3,000 men. In 1940, there was the Battle of Britain, and in 1943, Barnes Wallis tested his famous bouncing bomb at nearby **Reculver**. In 1999, after 80 years, the closure of RAF Manston was announced, and it was given over to exclusively civilian air traffic. However, in 2014, Kent International Airport closed after several attempts by different airlines to keep it open and discussions are still on-going about the site's future.

- 8.30am** Coach leaves Crescent Road, Tunbridge Wells (opposite Assembly Hall)
- 8.45am** Coach leaves Southborough Fountain
- 10.30am** Arrive at RAF Manston. Refreshments (not included) in Merlin Cafe.  
Time to explore Spitfire and Hurricane Museum
- 12.00pm** Snacks or lunch (not included) in Merlin Cafe
- 2.00pm** Time to explore RAF Manston History Museum
- 3.30pm** Leave for Tunbridge Wells via Reculver to see where trials of the bouncing bomb were held
- 6.00pm** Arrive back at Crescent Road (depending on traffic)

**Cost:** £21 per person to include entry to museums, coach & gratuities. Refreshments are not included. Please note that once we are committed to paying out money in advance, full refunds can usually only be given if your place is taken by another U3A member.

**Applications (including cheque payable to Tunbridge Wells U3A + SAE for reply) to: Stella Westrup, 19, Oakwood Rise, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. TN2 3HD. Tel: 01892 523413. Also available for enquiries: Rosemary Rees, Tel: 01892 541517, mobile on day only, 07979 622270**

Members are advised that neither the TWU3A nor the organiser will accept responsibility for any mishap of whatever nature during the outing. Members are advised to consider personal insurance cover.



**TWU3A Outing to RAF Manston History Museum and the Spitfire and Hurricane Museum on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> August 2019.**

**Please PRINT your name and address.**

Please be at departure point 10 minutes before departure.

Please reserve ..... place/s for this outing. I/We enclose a cheque for £ ..... and SAE

I/We will join the coach at Crescent Road at 8.30am (.....) Southborough Fountain at 8.45am (.....)

Name/s .....

U3A No/s .....

Address.....

Tel. No. .... Mobile No. .... Signed .....

Date.....