

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

By the time you read this, the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations will be over. What a great day we had! There will be more pictures next month. Please keep on spreading the word among young and old alike and help to make u3a as well known as the WI.



**IMPORTANT — PLEASE READ THIS!** Unfortunately the roof of the Camden Centre is leaking again and we have had to change the venue of the **AGM on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 2.30pm** and of **Colin Bell's talk, "Over Berlin at Night in a Mosquito Bomber" on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June**. Both will start promptly at 2.30 pm and will be held in the **Tunbridge Wells Christian Fellowship Hall**, in Hanover Road. This is the large hall on the first floor above Tesco in the centre of TW (nearly opposite the main Post Office) where we have already held several monthly meetings. The entrance is in the side road beside Tesco. The address is: TWCF, Hanover Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1EY. There is parking in Meadow Road Car Park.

We are very grateful to those of you who have sent us your proxy vote for the AGM. We need 104 voting members to form a quorum so it is very important that those of you who can come in person should do so – without a quorum we shall have to hold the meeting again. As the meeting will be followed by strawberries & cream and a glass of bubbly, with a chance to chat to friends, it will be a sociable occasion.

We hope to see you there!

[Eryll](mailto:eryll@u3a.org.uk) (01892 513805)

### Coming up this month



16<sup>th</sup> June **AGM**

24<sup>th</sup> June **Coffee morning at Trinity**

25<sup>th</sup> June **Rusthall Fete**

28<sup>th</sup> June **Colin Bell's war-time talk**

2<sup>nd</sup> July **Langton Green Fete**

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**\*PLEASE NOTE\***

**!! CHANGE OF VENUES !!**

Rain has leaked into the Camden Centre Hall again and we have therefore had to change the venue of our meetings.

Please note that both the **AGM** on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June and **Colin Bell's talk, OVER BERLIN AT NIGHT IN A MOSQUITO BOMBER**, on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June will be held at **the Tunbridge Wells Christian Fellowship Hall**. Both will start at 2.30pm.

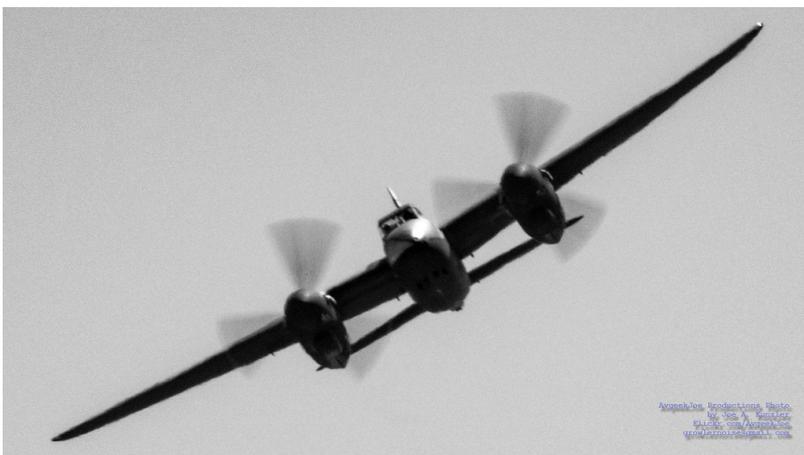
The TWCF Hall is the large hall on the first floor above Tesco in the centre of TW (nearly opposite the main Post Office) where we have already held several monthly meetings. The entrance is in the side road beside Tesco. The address is: TWCF, Hanover Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1EY. There is parking in Meadow Road Car Park.

**We need at least 104 voting members to form a quorum at the AGM, please come if you can!**

**The meeting will still be followed by strawberries & cream and a glass of bubbly.**

**\*\*SPECIAL TALK\*\***

**OVER BERLIN AT NIGHT IN A MOSQUITO BOMBER**



Colin Bell, who has won as many plaudits for his talk as for his wartime record, was unable to speak to us in 2020 due to the pandemic. We are therefore delighted to remind you that he will be giving us his inspirational talk on

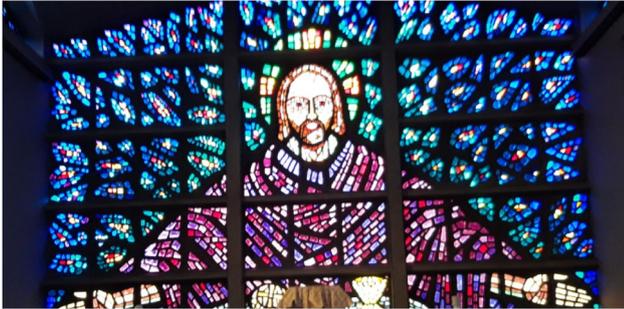
**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June**

in the Christian Fellowship Hall (Details above) Doors will open at 2.15 and the talk will start at 2.30.

We are asking for a minimum **£5 donation** (payable on the door) as Colin is raising funds for Hospice in the Weald. Members are welcome to bring a non-member.

## SHORT BREAKS REPORT

Our SHORT BREAK TO DEVON took place in May. 41 members had a lovely 5 days staying in Torquay. We had great weather. Below are some photos to give a feel of the trip.



We visited the Benedictine Buckfast Abbey and had a tour of Dartmoor to Widdicombe on the moor.



Beautiful Coleton Fishacre, once home to the Doyley Carte.



On the river Dart going to Greenway, the holiday home of Agatha Christie.

Our next short break is 4 days to the Midlands in September taking in the Birmingham Military Tattoo.

Hopefully there will be 2 short breaks in 2023. Watch this space!



*Sandra McDonald*



## Outings Coordinator

Our August outing is a day at the seaside; we will be travelling to the Kent coast to spend time in Ramsgate. There will be an escorted tour around the secret wartime tunnels and then members have the rest of the day to spend at their leisure. There are the yachts and boats in the Royal Harbour or perhaps browsing around the Maritime Museum. Whatever you decide to do I am sure it will be an enjoyable day at the coast. The application form is at the end of this newsletter.

The July outing to Lullingstone Castle and Aylesford Priory still has a few places available. The application form was in May's newsletter or alternatively telephone the organiser of the trip, Pat Micklewright on 07530 885657.

In May we spent a lovely warm sunny day at Leonardslee Lakes & Gardens and Nymans; Sheila's review of this outing is below.

If you enjoy these monthly outings why not join our small team of organisers and help with the ideas and arrangements? Please telephone me on 0750 4919081.

*Joan Young*

### LEONARDSLEE LAKES & GARDENS AND NYMANS

Once through the gates of Leonardslee the gardens lay out in front for us to enjoy. Sculptures in and around the grounds were quite spectacular. If, after a walk, your tummy's rumbling, the café had something for all. Then we visited The Dolls House Museum; a very clever work of art.

Back on the coach.



Our next visit was Nymans. Indulgent or what?!

Two gardens in one day. I know you wish you had come with us! Nymans has a connection to royalty, being Lord Snowdon's childhood home. The gardens are full of colour throughout the year and the volunteers were happy to answer any questions you may have. What a super, indulgent day out.



*Sheila Austin*

### The Tea Team keep walking



It was a beautifully sunny and warm day for our latest walk in the Boyne Park area. Houses were built between 1893 and 1910 for the wealthy middle class, some being in the Queen Anne style and large enough to accommodate servants.

We walked down Boyne Park admiring the architecture and especially that of Boyne Tower, a huge residence with a tower! There were huge chimneys on a house in Oakdale Road and in Earl's Road and we saw where E M Forster lived

whilst at Tonbridge School. It was on down Court Road and into Molyneux Park Road. Many of the houses had attractive stained glass windows and outside wall decorations, a hallmark of the architect.

*Stella Westrup*



# Groups coordinator update

There are still plans to start the following groups: **Posh Nosh Diners Too**, **London Explorers 7** and **Booker Prize Reading**. If you would like more details please contact the Groups' Co-ordinator.

Once we have enough interested members we can have a start-up meeting at which you can agree on meeting places, meeting days and times and also find someone who is willing to be the group contact. A Group Contact is the link person who 'holds' the group together, but they do not need to always be the sole organiser! Many TWu3a groups take it in turns to plan and co-ordinate outings, walks or topics.

**MOTO2** is now starting to meet whilst the **Canasta**, **Family History 2 (beginners)**, **Watercolours Painting** and **Recorder Consort** groups would welcome more members.

Details of the groups and their contacts are on the website which has links to the group contacts or from the Groups Co-ordinator.

[Lindsay Hasell](#)

## CALLING ALL GROUP CONTACTS

Our thanks to the group contacts who have replied to the June 21<sup>st</sup> Working Breakfast Meeting invitation.

If you are unable to come along don't forget to send updated group and waiting lists to us and/or please check the names on the group's Beacon database. The Groups Listing and website help new members to find welcoming groups to join so please notify us if your group is full or has not resumed meeting.



**Explorers 1** went to Rochester to see the 5000 leaves in the Cathedral all with HOPE written on them as part of a reflective memorial to the coronavirus pandemic; very beautiful.

The group outside Eastgate House, which was a girls' school in Charles Dickens time and used in the Mystery of Edwin Drood.



Not forgetting a spot of lunch.  
*Joan Young*



### London Explorers 5 by the Albert Memorial & Albert Hall



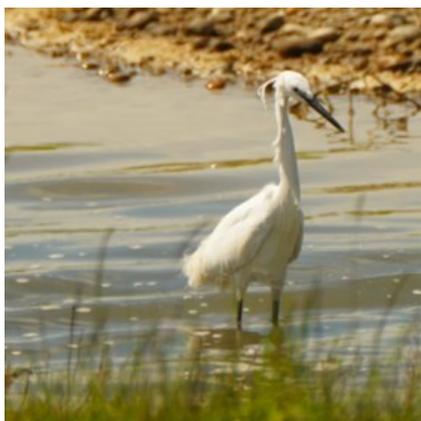
## Group News

The **Bird Watching Group's** Spring trip to Rye Harbour Nature Reserve was a huge success with 42 species recorded and a blustery start in the car park gave way to warm sunshine. My personal favourite was the turnstone in full breeding plumage which performed like a catwalk model in front of one of the hides. Lovely little birds.



Photos by Phil Sumner

Clockwise from top: Turnstone, Dunlin, Curlew, Ringed Plover, Little Egret



*Erik Brown*

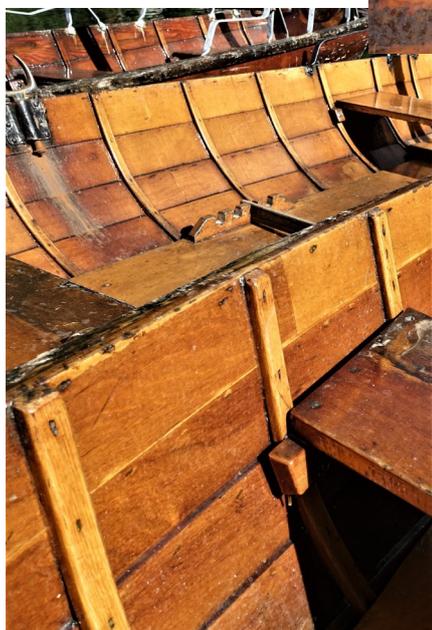


Allowing for a late start due to rain, the **Photo Club** set off for Haysden Country Park and Tonbridge Castle. For once the sun wasn't too bright so no complaints, except the rain closed the café famous for its bacon sandwiches. The castle interior was a bit of a challenge to see where we were going, let alone take photos. Event of the day was my lift home getting lost in the Park and turning up 40 minutes late at the car park.



But a fruitful day for the challenges; orange, curves, water, and low-key photography.

*Ian Graham*



Members of the **Gardening Group** recently went along to the Council Depot to work with some of the Royal Tunbridge Wells In Bloom team.

They planted up containers that will be on display outside Lloyds bank with yellow Sunflowers, Bidens, blue Petunias and Lobelia.



## Last Month's Talk

### Neil Sadler; Come Fly with me...an odd thing happened today at the airport.

You may remember Neil when he came to tell us about his gongoozling

adventures aboard his canal boat. Before he retired he was a police officer and worked in the 80s and 90s at Gatwick airport; the world's second largest single runway airport.

At that time, after the 2 years probation had been completed, it was common for the Sussex police to do a stint at Gatwick. This was initially viewed as not real 'policing' but certainly had its own crimes and considerations.

One of most common problems at airports is the misuse of alcohol. (Why is alcohol sold at airports at breakfast time?) Neil cited 3 famous names: Peter Buck, guitarist with R.E.M., Vinny Jones, footballer and actor, and Naomi Campbell, model, whose cases all went to court. And there have been many more non-celebrities too.

Terrorism is always a serious threat and in 1988 Neil had been given his 5 days training in dealing with bomb scares. On his second day back in the job a call was received about a bomb on a plane. Procedures were accordingly followed and the plane was kept on the ground. A short time later a man ran up to the gate and admitted he had made the call as his girlfriend was late for the plane! He was fined £20,000 and given a 1 year sentence.

Many more interesting stories were told and Neil has written them and others in his book—*The Inspector Calls: Confessions of a Police Speaker*.



### Line Dancing

The line dancers were certainly kept on their toes in Rusthall Church hall at this first-time TWu3a event. It may not have been aptly described as *dancing* or *in lines* but it was certainly fun.

Definitely physical exercise (2 x 45

minutes of it) but also great brain training. The coordination and concentration needed to correctly follow Wendy's demonstration was considerable and not all of us managed it.

At half time there was plenty to eat with a baked potato, fillings and copious salad. In fact we weren't sure we'd be able to move during the second half. It was brilliant fun and a physically and mentally rewarding evening. What more could you ask for? Thank you Miranda for organising it all.

If you would like to contact Wendy she has a facebook page –[Wendy Langley health and fitness](#) or click here for her [email](#).



## Important information

### Forthcoming Events For Your Diary

16 June 2022	AGM
25 June 2022	Rusthall Fete
28 June 2022	Colin Bell: Over Berlin in a Mosquito Bomber
2 July 2022	Langton Green Village Fete
24 Sept 2022	Barn Dance
27 Oct 2022	Games afternoon

### New members

A big welcome to our **20** new members this month.

**Joan Bond, Sheila Brown, Geraldine & Nicholas Byrne, Margaret Daniell, Andrew Dean, Judith Dickens, Brenda French, Derek Frost, Valrita & Nigel Gray, Jackie Hawkes, Nigel Peacock, Morwena Pritchard, Christina & George Randell, Jenni Roberts, Angela Simson, Pamela Storr, and Diana Taylor.**

### Your Committee

Chairman	Eryll Fabian	01892 513805
Vice-Chair	Sandra McDonald	01892 752196
Secretary	Fiona Findlay	07872 169146
Treasurer	David Brimlow	01892 860598
Group Coordinator	Lindsay Hasell	01892 673180
Membership Secretary	Judy Horwood	01892 537601
Outings Coordinator	Joan Young	01892 546687
Short Breaks & Holidays	Sandra McDonald	01892 752196
Events Coordinator	Philippa Bernstein	01892 523132
Newsletter	Bridget Sands	01892 546161

### A Message from the Editor

Any publication is only as good as its contributors and I do hope you will continue to support the Newsletter as it is such an easy and effective way to communicate with you all. If you have a great idea for an article or there is anything interesting you would like to see in the newsletter in the future please let me know.

If anyone objects to their photo being reproduced in this Newsletter, please contact me as soon as possible.

All contributions to the **July** Newsletter should be e-mailed to **Bridget** by June 30<sup>th</sup> at the latest (**earlier submissions are always welcome!**) or phone 01892 546161.

### National Office



Keep up to date with National Office news on the website:

[www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk) or write to:

The Third Age Trust, Room 104, Lenta Business Centre,  
156 Blackfriars Rd, London SE1 8EN

For u3a Members Only.

## Application for Ramsgate Tunnels, Thanet Wednesday 3rd August 2022.

### Tunbridge Wells u3a Outing Application Form.

The cost of this outing is £23 which includes entrance to the Tunnels, coach, and driver's gratuity. There is a small cafe where snacks and drinks can be purchased. **Please be aware:** The floor in the tunnels is uneven and stony. The tunnels themselves are cool and damp, so it is advised that members wear appropriate footwear and clothing. After the tour, time is free and members may like to take a walk along the promenade, explore the pretty town of Ramsgate, the Royal Harbour, or the nearby Maritime Museum.

**Outing Code: F11- Organiser: stellawestrup@hotmail.co.uk**

**To pay by BACS,** Please email Stella Westrup and include your name, mobile/home phone number, preferred pick up point, and date of payment for Ramsgate Tunnels Outing and Code F11 for £23.

**Then to pay:** Make an online transfer to:

**Tunbridge Well u3a**

**Sort code: 40-52-40**

**Account number:00024097**

(Your bank may not recognise our CAF account, but as long as you have entered the details correctly, you can go ahead with the transaction.)

**Reference: Outing Code and Your Surname.**

**To pay by cheque:** Please post the application form below to Stella Westrup, 19, Oakwood Rise, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 3HD. Add your email address or telephone number for confirmation of receipt.

Any queries call Stella Westrup on: **01892 523413** On the day Val Apps mobile on: **07768790647**

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## Application Form

### Outing name and Code: Ramsgate Tunnels F11

I enclose a cheque for £.....made payable to Tunbridge Wells u3a

Name, mobile and home phone number.....

If you are paying for a partner or u3a friend, please include their details below:

.....  
Name, mobile and home phone number.....

Please tick where you would like to board the coach:

- Crescent Road- Pick up time 8:15 am opposite the Assembly Hall
- St. John's Sainsbury's local-Pick up time 8:20 am opposite Sainsbury's local
- Southborough Fountain- Pick up time 8:30 am

We will arrive at Ramsgate about 9:45 am, and depart for Tunbridge Wells at 4.00 pm, aiming to be back at Southborough Fountain at 5:15 pm and 10-15 minutes later at St. John's and Crescent Road.

Please note that once money has been paid in advance full refunds will only be offered if your place can be filled by another u3a member. Members are advised that neither the TWu3a nor the outing's organiser will accept responsibility for any mishap of whatever nature during the outing. Members are advised to consider personal insurance cover.