

Update

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Thursday 17 September

Peter Benson: *Tales Of A Film Prop Man*

“Learn about the glamour and excitement of the film industry through the eyes of Pete Benson, an unexpected hero who stumbled into a career as a film prop man with no prior experience.

Tales Of A Film Prop Man is a humorous and heart-warming story that follows Pete’s journey as he navigates the unpredictable world of movie sets, famous actors, and exotic locations, all while balancing the demands of supporting a young family”

Pete’s book will be on sale at the meeting and in lieu of his fee, we will make a donation to the Hands of Hope charity



From the Chair

I am writing this in mid-August, sitting in the shade under our parasol wondering whether the burning heat of the exceptional Summer will ever give way to Autumn. The lawn is brown, the leaves on the trees are limp and there is only the slightest breeze.

At our Monthly Meeting in July Chris O'Donoghue gave an excellent talk entitled 'Behind the Scenes at the Chelsea Flower Show'. He revealed the competitive process of applying to the RHS for a garden to be selected for the Chelsea Flower Show, and then the work and skills required to create it.

Anna Toombs and Jenny Stevens are well advanced with plans for the Christmas Lunch at the Pig and Sty on 7 December.

Richard Parsons is leaving Tenterden and June Thomason has written the tribute below on behalf of the Bird watching Group. We wish him all the best in the future.

John Nicholls

Group Leaders

We held a short training session on Beacon for Group Leaders in mid-August; Leaders covering some ten groups attended, mostly with larger groups, where Beacon has more benefits. Use of Beacon is suggested for all Leaders but is completely optional, and can be marginal for smaller groups. If you as Group Leader

decide the benefits of Beacon don't outweigh the, fairly small, extra admin, please ensure you follow the u3a rule that we do not reveal members' personal details (email or phone) to others without their express permission (note that joining the group does not count as giving permission).

Any Group Leaders wishing to consider using Beacon, or having problems using it, please contact John Russell, on secretary@tenterdenu3a.org

Group news

Birding Group bids farewell to Richard Parsons

The Birding Group was formed by Richard sixteen years ago. Under his knowledgeable, kind and convivial leadership the group has flourished..

When I joined the group four years ago, I could not distinguish a plover from a pintail or a widgeon from a wagtail. Richard encouraged people like me with little knowledge. So it was with considerable sadness that twenty "birders" gathered to bid



farewell to Richard as he leaves us to move away to Harrogate. We enjoyed a lovely (almost too hot) summer day with a buffet lunch in Ruth and Don Clarke's beautiful house and garden and presented him with some gift vouchers. We send Richard on his way with thanks and great affection.

June Thomason

Strictly Singles

Amongst other activities, Strictly Singles are planning Thames boat trips to Greenwich and a walk along the Seven Sisters path near Eastbourne.

Niche Interests

u3a is a great place to find those few others who might just share one's niche interests. I found a (very) few of those in my previous u3a that share my main two, 'Military History' and 'Progressive Rock'.

I just wonder if any of our 400+ members out there might like to join me, John Russell, secretary@tenterdenu3a.org



Bridge

Bridge meets at 9:45 on Friday mornings and has space for new members. Please contact Frances through the website for more details.

New Group – Wildlife Walks

Following Richard Parsons' departure, some members of the Birdwatching Group are interested in setting up a new Wildlife Walks group in its place. We will continue bird watching but we want to expand the focus to include a wider range of fauna, flora and fungi, initially at local nature reserves, but also exploring new sites like Sevenoaks for rutting deer and Wye Downs for summer meadows and butterflies.

If you would like to learn more, please contact Ruth Clarke through the website.

